OFFICIAL PROGRAM BOOK



SEE:

SHINJI HIGUCHI

MICHIRU OSHIMA

YUJI KAIDA

RYUKI KITAOKA

KAZUHIRO NAKAGAWA

KIYOTAKA TAGUCHI

TONY ISABELLA

7/11/2017

ROBERT SCOTT FIELD

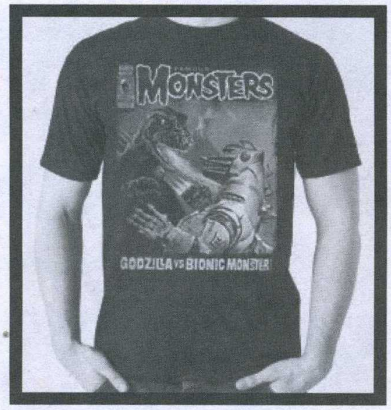
G-FEST XXIV

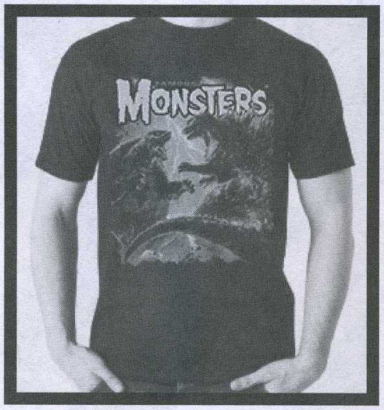
JULY 14 - 16, 2017, ROSEMONT, IL

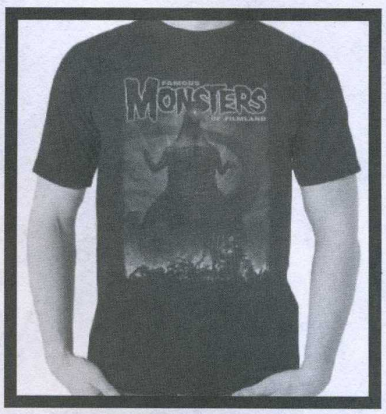
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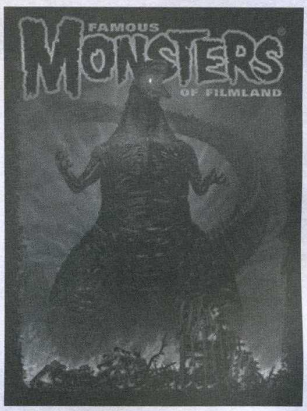




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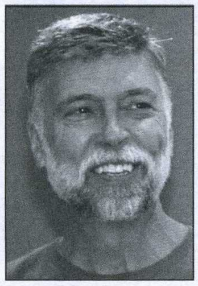
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WELCOME!



Another year has flown by, and here we are once again at the opening of G-FEST. For those who wait eagerly for this event, particularly young people, perhaps it seems to be a long time in coming. To those of us who prepare it, I can assure you, the calendar days leading up to July 14 have flown by very fast. But the show always seems to come together, ready or not!

The past year has been an exciting one for Godzilla's fans. The drought of Japanese G-films, that had lasted more than a decade, ended with the release of *Shin Godzilla.* The film's success was spectacular in its native Japan, both financially and critically, culminating in the Japanese Academy Award for Best Picture. This is not the type of praise we G-fans are used to, to put it mildly, and it's a bit disorienting!

Here in the west, Funimation gave the film a limited release, which garnered mostly positive reviews and full theaters. G-fans' reactions ran the gamut, but undeniably, *Shin Godzilla* breathed even more life into a franchise that was already energized Stateside. As things currently stand, we can expect at least two more American-made live action features, and a trilogy of G-anime movies from Japan, beginning this year. *Shin Godzilla*'s success will likely inspire more entries in the series in Japan, though nothing has been formally announced as yet.

Thanks to Funimation, we can finally screen a new Godzilla movie this year at G-FEST, the first since *Final Wars* in 2005! We are also honored to host *Shin G*'s co-director Shinji Higuchi, already a friend we met in 2011 and now a Japan Academy Award winner himself. So expect a lot of *Shin G* buzz this weekend; G-FEST XXIV is the first chance we've had to discuss the feature as a group... face to face, at least.

Long time G-FEST attendees will notice a few changes to our regular routine once again this year. Last year, we hosted a bevy of kaiju movie stars, and much of their time was devoted to signing autographs. This year we have focused mostly on "behind the cameras" guests, and are anticipating they will spend less time signing autographs and more time enjoying the convention and mingling with the fans. To that end, we have scaled back the time allotment for autographs to what it was a few years back. See elsewhere in this program for details.

Continued growth of the costume parade has necessitated splitting it into two, one for young fans on Friday evening and a second for adult fans on Saturday evening. Both are incorporated into programs that will be entertaining, and still allow time for travel to the Pickwick to catch the featured film.

Presentation of the major awards has been shifted to the Saturday night event, and a couple of new awards have been added. The programming is, as usual, "ALL NEW, NEVER BEFORE SEEN!" but the format of the rest of G-FEST should be comfortingly familiar. So welcome back, or for first-timers welcome here! Our annual G-family reunion is about to get underway. I hope you will make the most of it, and depart loaded with happy memories, new friendships... and a decent haul from the Dealers Room.

Have fun!

Editor & publisher, G-FAN

GUEST OF HONOR

SHINJI HIGUCHI



Returning to G-FEST is director and spfx director Shinji Higuchi. Mr. Higuchi most recently worked on *Shin Godzilla* in 2016 as the visual effects director and co-director, for which he was awarded Japan's Academy Award. Previously, he directed the live action adaptation of the *Attack on Titan* movies. Shinji Higuchi is also well known for his groundbreaking special effects work on the Heisei Gamera trilogy. In 2004 he had a huge success as director of the remake of "Submersion of Japan." He is one of the founding members of the anime studio Gainax, lending his writing, art direction, and storyboarding skills to the popular series *Neon Genesis Evangelion*. He will be awarded a lifetime achievement award at G-FEST.

GUEST OF HONOR

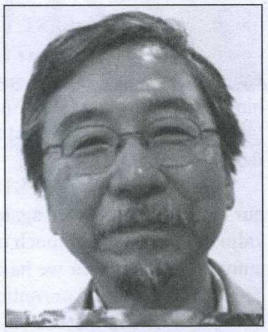
MICHIRU OSHIMA



Michiru Oshima is a talented composer with a multitude of credits. Her music can be heard on numerous anime series, movies, and video games. She is well known to kaiju fans for her scores for *Godzilla vs. Megaguirus, Godzilla Against Mechagodzilla*, and *Godzilla: Tokyo S.O.S.* Some of the popular anime series featuring her music include *Fullmetal Alchemist* and *Queen Emeraldas*. She is the first and only woman to score a G-film, and in so doing, she created a distinctive, memorable, and highly appropriate new theme for the King of the Monsters. This year at G-FEST, Michiru Oshima will be the recipient of the coveted Mangled Skyscraper Award for her contributions to the kaiju eiga genre.

GUEST OF HONOR

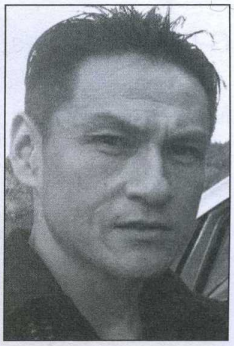
YUJI KAIDA



Every fan of Godzilla and Ultraman has enjoyed Yuji Kaida's work. He is a veteran designer and illustrator, renowned by his legion of fans for his massive volume of Godzilla and other kaiju-related work – it is everywhere! Mr. Kaida's beautiful paintings and illustrations can be found in books, posters, CD and DVD cases, comic books, and model kit boxes. He has also worked on numerous other high-profile properties, including Transformers, Macross, Gundam, Patlabor, and Zoids, and recently was commissioned to create the Japanese poster for *Kong: Skull Island*. For his amazing contributions to kaiju fandom, this year at G-FEST Mr. Kaida will receive a special Monster Attack Team Award.

GUEST OF HONOR

RYUKI KITAOKA



Born in 1971 in Tochigi, Japan, Ryuki Kitaoka has built a career in film over the past two decades as an actor and also as a suit actor and stuntman. His suit acting skills were put to use in a wide variety of kaiju roles in several Ultraman TV series, including *Ultraman Tiga, Ultraman Dyna, Ultraman Gaia*, and *Ultraman Cosmos*. Some of Mr. Kitaoka's other kaju-related work includes acting roles in 2004's *Godzilla: Final Wars, Reigo the Deep-Sea Monster vs. the Battleship Yamato*, (2008) *Ultraman Nexus* (2005), and the kaiju spoof *Death Kappa* (2010). Mr. Kitaoka previously worked with Shinji Higuchi in *Lorelei: Witch of the Pacific Ocean*.

GUEST OF HONOR

KAZUHIRO NAKAGAWA



Kazuhiro Nakagawa graduated from the Directing Course of the Department of Cinema at Nihon University College of Art. A fan of tokusatsu (special effects) films since childhood, he dreamed of making a living at creating miniatures in film. Since graduation, Mr. Nakagawa has been working as an assistant film director. His credits include writer and director of *Day of the Kaiju* and he served as assistant director on both *Attack on Titan* and *Shin Godzilla*.

SPECIAL GUEST

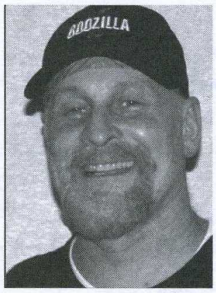
KIYOTAKA TAGUCHI



Kiyotaka Taguchi is a director whose most recent work includes *Ultraman Orb* and *Ultraman X* the movies, as well as their respective television series. He also directed the *Ultraman Ginga* television series, and the short kaiju films *Gehara* and *G*. Mr. Taguchi was assistant special effects director on numerous Millennium Series G-films, including *GMK: Giant Monsters All-Out Attack, Godzilla Against Mechagodzilla*, and *Godzilla Tokyo S.O.S.*

SPECIAL GUEST

ROBERT SCOTT FIELD

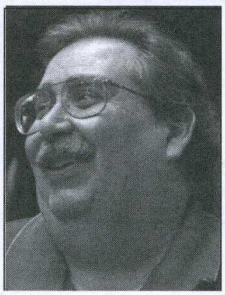


"Scott" has graced G-FEST with his friendly and amazingly energetic presence every year since 1999. A casual G-fan in his youth, he realized every Godzilla-lover's dream when he landed a major role in *Godzilla vs King Ghidorah*, as Android M-11.

Scott makes his home in Japan where he is an actor, teacher, author, motivational speaker, spokesman, and TV personality (among other pursuits). At G-FEST he serves as emcee, translator, presenter, celebrity, and ambassador for kaiju fandom.

SPECIAL PRESENTER

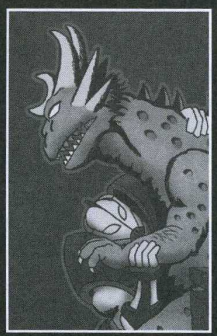
TONY ISABELLA



Tony Isabella is veteran of the comics industry, an editor and writer at Marvel Comics and many other publishers. He is the author of 1000 Comic Books You Must Read, one of the most successful books of comics history and nostalgia. Tony was also the lead reviewer for and a contributing editor of Comics Buyer's Guide for over two decades. You can read his frequently-posted thoughts on both pop culture and current events at tonyisabella.blogspot.com.

LOOKING FOR G-FEST T-SHIRTS AND OTHER OFFICIAL G-FEST GOODS?

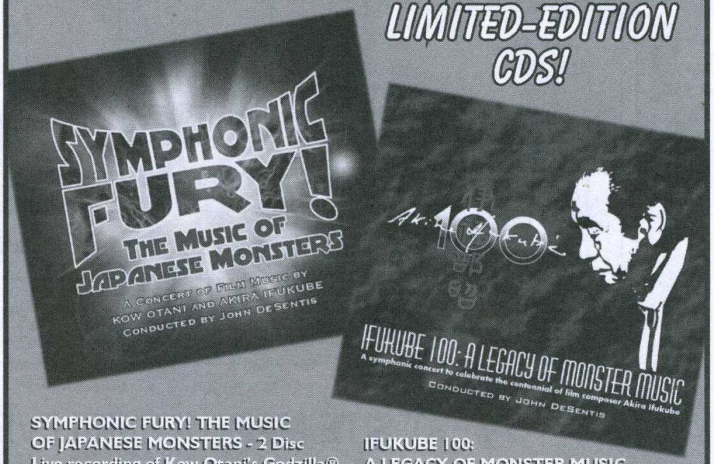
CHECK OUT THE G-FAN TABLE, NEXT TO REGISTRATION IN CONCOURSE A! BACK ISSUES OF G-FAN ALSO AVAILABLE AT LOW LOW PRICES!



TWO HISTORIC KAIJU CONCERTS

featuring the music of AKIRA IFUKUBE AND KOW OTANI

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SYMPHONIC FURY! THE MUSIC OF JAPANESE MONSTERS - 2 Disc
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IFUKUBE 100: A LEGACY OF MONSTER MUSIC
2 Disc Live recording of Akira Ifukube's Godzilla® film scores, performed by a full symphony orchestra!

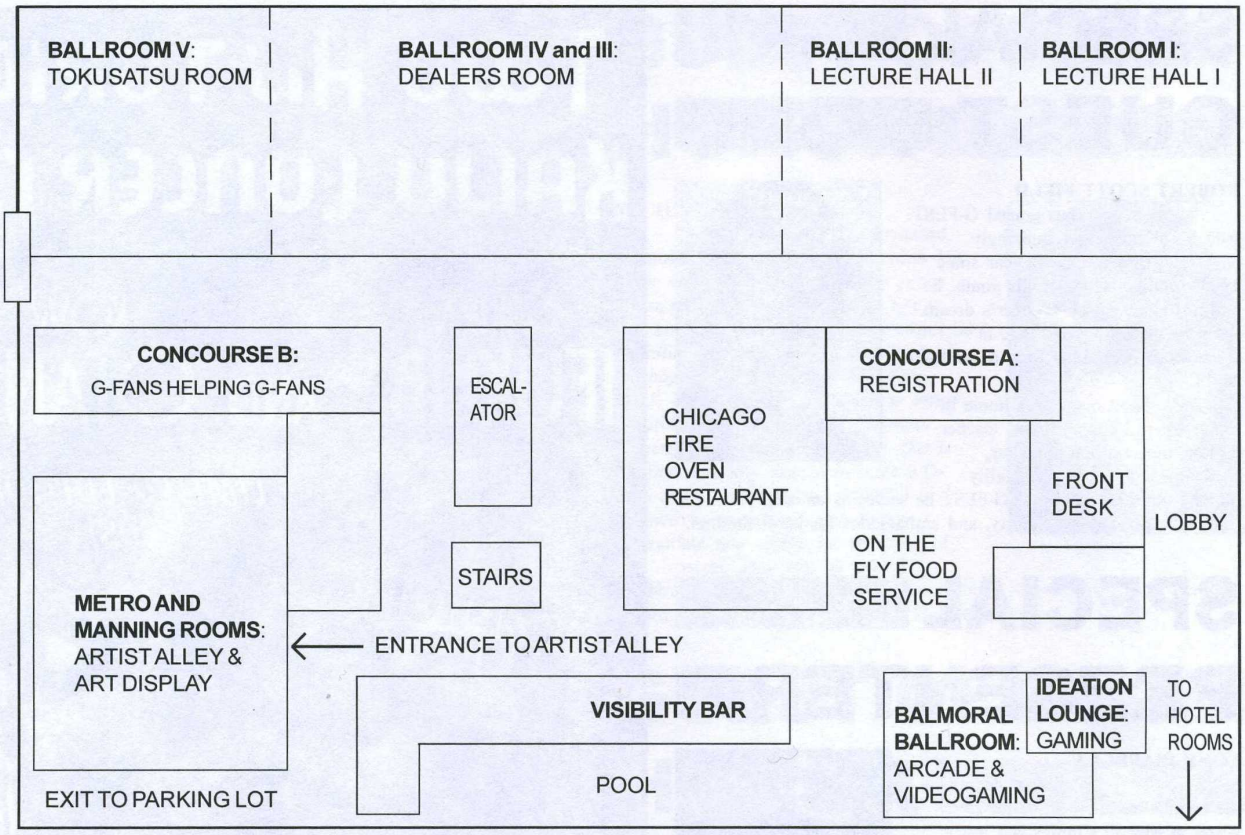
Both CD sets feature amazing 2-disc Ultra Perspecta Stereo recordings of the complete concerts, lavishly illustrated full color packaging and informational booklets!

All music on both CD sets fully licensed and authorized by Montaro Records and Genesis 54 Inc.

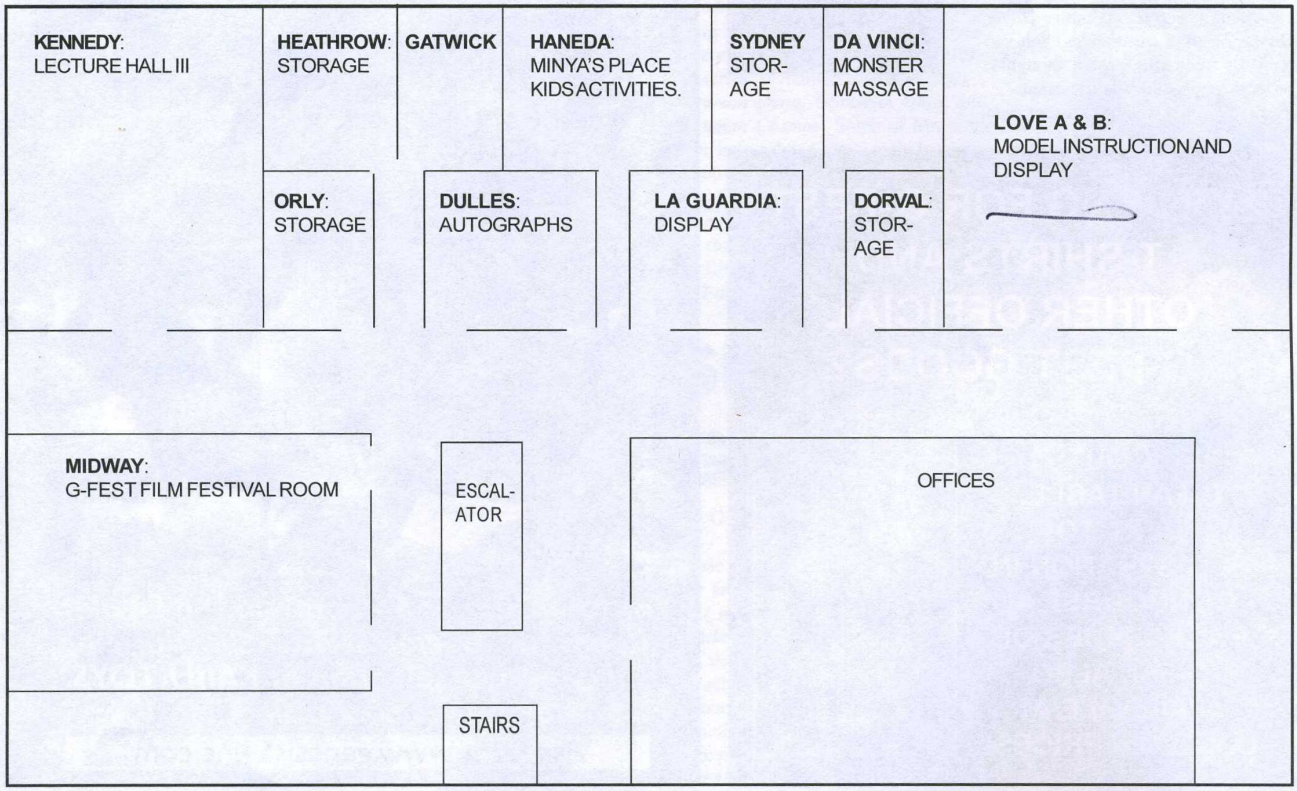


Visit the Genesis 54 booth in the Dealer's Room for special G-FEST show pricing and a great selection of KAIJU TOYS and other cool collectibles!

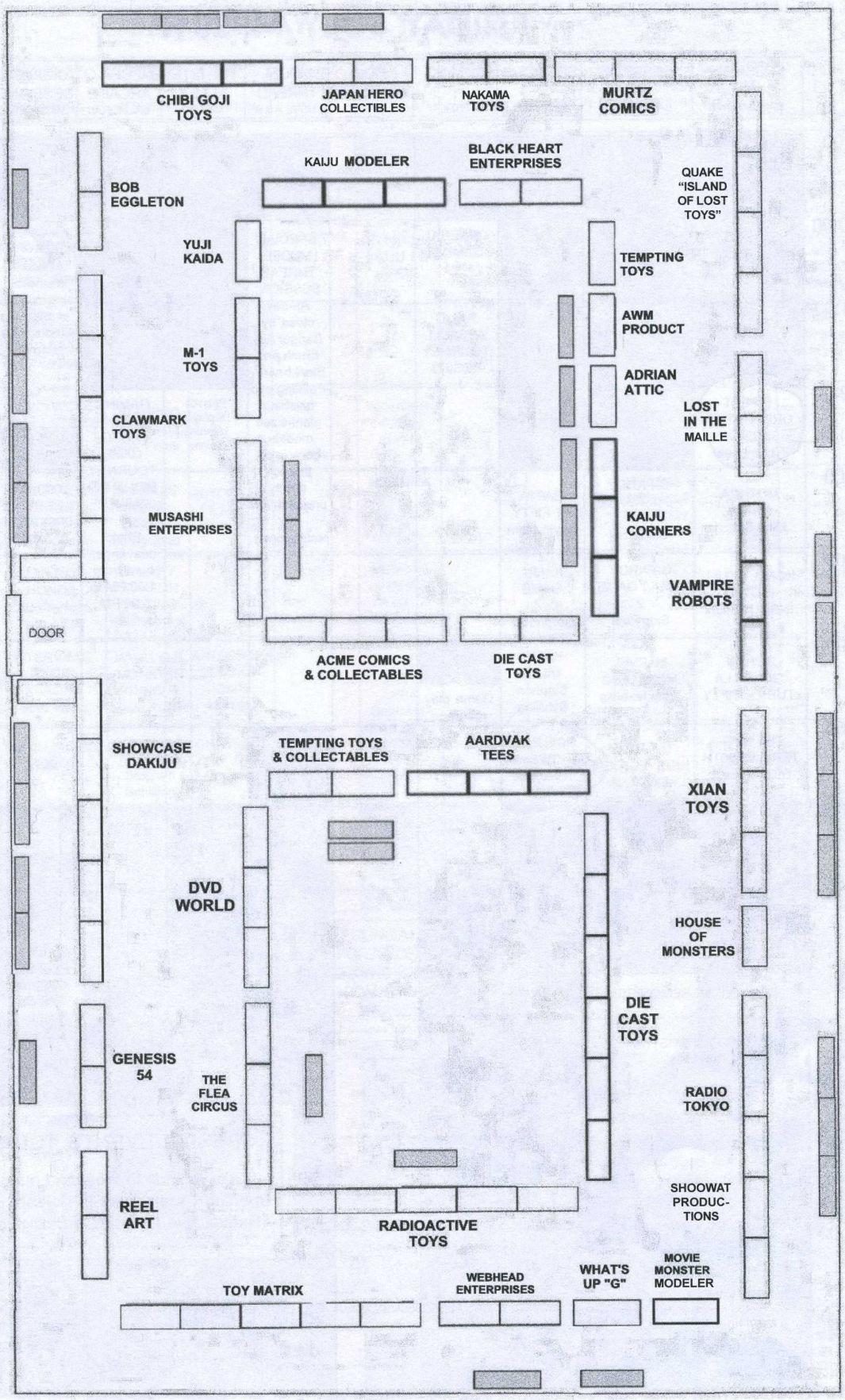
Visit us at www.genesis54inc.com



G-FEST SITE MAP: UPPER LEVEL ↑ LOWER LEVEL ↓



G-FEST XXIV DEALER ROOM LAYOUT



FRIDAY, JULY 14, 2017

	SESSIONS BALLROOM 1	SESSIONS BALLROOM 2	SESSIONS KENNEDY	GAMING IDEATION	FILM FESTIVAL MIDWAY	MODEL THREAD LOVE A & B	ARTISTS ALLEY METRO	MECHA-G ARCADE BALMORAL	TOKUSATSU SESSIONS BALLROOM 5	DEALERS ROOM BLRM 3 & 4	OTHER
9:00					KAIJU BOOM 50th Anniversary (all day)						REGISTRATION OPENS
10:00				GENERAL GAMING		SPECIAL MODEL THREAD SESSION: All-day class by Badger Air-Brush and Blackheart - Painting and finishing giant-sized models. Look in on this top notch presentation by professionals.			TOKUSATSU ROOM OPEN for sessions & observation, workshop space for costumers. (Check schedule posted on door.)		
11:00				KAIJU ASSAULT TOURNEY BEGINS							
12:00	G-FEST ORIENTATION SESSION: J.D. Lees						Plus Art Display in Manning Room	GAMING OPEN! VIDEO GAME TOURNEY SIGN-UP AND WARM-UP. Photo scavenger hunt from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM.			
1:00	MOTHRA MANIA Mike Sutton	G-PARDY ADULT GAME 1 Skip Peel	GAPPA AT FIFTY Kevin Horn						YOUTH COSTUME PARADE ORIENTATION/ WORKSHOP	OPEN TO STAFF ONLY	
2:00	KONG: SKULL ISLAND DISCUSSION	G-PARDY ADULT GAME 2 Skip Peel	KAIJU ANIME Kevin Derendorf							OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR SHOPPING	
3:00	SON OF GODZILLA TURNS FIFTY	MARVEL MONSTERS Tony Isabella	KAIJU TALKS Stephen Schilling	Game play resumes							
4:00	THE MYSTERIANS 60TH Ed Godziszewski, Steve Ryfle	G-PARDY KIDS' EDITION Skip Peel	BIG IN JAPAN Alan O W Barnes, Robert Scott Field								
5:00											5:00 PM: REGISTRATION CLOSES FOR THE DAY
6:00									GREEN ROOM PREP FOR COSTUME PARADE		
7:00	OPENING CEREMONIES YOUNG FAN COSTUME PARADE										
8:00	RADIOACTIVE KARAOKE										
9:00											
10:00											
11:00											10:30 PM AT THE PICKWICK: **KONG: SKULL ISLAND**

SPECIAL EVENTS TODAY

Kaiju Assault in Ideation Lounge
Opening Ceremonies in Ballroom 1/2
Radioactive Karaoke in Ballroom 2

SATURDAY, JULY 15, 2017

	SESSIONS BALLROOM 1	SESSIONS BALLROOM 2	SESSIONS KENNEDY	GAMING IDEATION	FILM FESTIVAL MIDWAY	MODEL THREAD LOVE A & B	ARTISTS ALLEY METRO	MECHA-G ARCADE BALMORAL	TOKUSATSU SESSIONS BALLROOM 5	DEALERS ROOM BLRM 3 & 4	OTHER
9:00	SUMMIT KAIJU CREATIVE CONTEST & VIDEO Jeremy Soles	INTERVIEW: KAZUHIRO NAKAGAWA Archie Waugh	JAPANESE CULTURE THE YOKAI WAY Joyce Boss		SEE FESTIVAL SCHEDULE ON PAGE 15 OF THIS PROGRAM.			OPEN FOR VIDEO TOURNEY SIGN-UP ONLY	Open for sessions & observation. (Check schedule posted on door.)		REGISTRATION RESUMES
10:00	GAMERA VS GYAOS Nick Adam Poling	INTERVIEW: MICHIRU OSHIMA John DeSentis	GODZILLA/ GAMERA STORIES Stephen Schilling	GENERAL GAMING		BRINGING KAIJU TO LIFE!!!	Plus Art Display in Manning Room	FREE PLAY TIME.		OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR SHOPPING	MINYA'S PLACE OPENS AT 9:00 AM in HANEDA ROOM!! Coloring and crafts for young fans.
11:00	THE LOST GODZILLA FILMS John LeMay	INTERVIEW: YUJI KAIDA Bob Eggleton	GODZILLA VS MOTHRA 25TH ANNIVERSARY	KAIJU ASSAULT TOURNAMENT 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM				VIDEO GAME TOURNEY BEGINS.			
12:00	FRESH VINYL LIVE Richard Eso	HOLLYWOOD KAIJU STRIKE BACK Waugh, Arlt	DRAWING WITH MATT Matt Frank			WONDER-FEST JAPAN					
1:00	ADVANCING YOUR SKILLS IN KAIJU FILMMAKING Jake DeNunzio	INTERVIEW: SHINJI HIGUCHI J.D. Lees	KAIJU FILMS: HUMAN ELEMENT Scrooge Jones	AUTOGRAPH SESSION: Dane Kroll		MODEL BOX ART MASTER YUJI KAIDA			ADULT COSTUME PARADE ORIENTATION/ WORKSHOP		
2:00	SHIN VS LEGENDARY Ira Taborn et. al.	ISHIRO HONDA Ed Godziszewski, Stephen Ryfle	THE ART OF KAIJU WRITING Neil Riebe et al			MECHA-KG APPEARS Bill Gudmundson					AUTOGRAPHS IN DULLES ROOM
3:00	GORGO, KONGA, & REPTILICUS Tony Isabella et. al.	INTERVIEW: RYUKI KITAOKA Stan Hyde	KAIJU OJI (MONSTER PRINCE) Lewis Austin	AUTOGRAPH SESSION: Chris Martinez		GREAT APES: DIORAMA BUILDING Larry Tribula					
4:00	G-TOUR 3.5 RECAP Stan Hyde et. al.	KAIJU MUSIC VIDEOS Andy Steele	ACAPELLA IFUKUBE Stephen Schilling	CHAMPION-SHIP GAME							
5:00											
6:00									GREEN ROOM PREP FOR COSTUME PARADE		
7:00	FINAL G-PARDY AWARDS: G-FAN HALL OF FAME LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT MANGLED SKYSCRAPER RAFFLE DRAWS ADULT FAN COSTUME PARADE AMATEUR KAIJU VIDEOS										
8:00											
9:00											
10:00											
11:00											10:30 PM AT THE PICKWICK: **SHIN GODZILLA** & Shinji Higuchi

FEELING A LITTLE TENSE? GO FOR A MONSTER MASSAGE! DOWNSTAIRS IN THE DAVINCI ROOM. EXPERT ATTENTION AT REASONABLE RATES.

MAKING G-FEST HAPPEN: ANDY STEELE

Andy brings the presentations and sessions of G-FEST to an even higher level by setting up and manning the AV system in the Main Hall. He essentially produces the entire weekend program "on the fly," an amazing feat. He also organizes and MCs the entries in the Kaiju Music Video Contest.

SUNDAY, JULY 16, 2017

	SESSIONS BALLROOM 1	SESSIONS BALLROOM 2	SESSIONS KENNEDY	GAMING IDEATION	FILM FESTIVAL MIDWAY	MODEL THREAD LOVE A & B	ARTISTS ALLEY METRO	MECHA-G ARCADE BALMORAL	TOKUSATSU SESSIONS BALLROOM 5	DEALERS ROOM BLRM 3 & 4	OTHER
9:00											9:30 AM REGISTRATION RESUMES
10:00	SHIN GODZILLA DISCUSSION	JAPAN UPDATE Robert Scott Field	TG2WAC PRO Lewis Austin	GENERAL GAMING	SEE FESTIVAL SCHEDULE ON PAGE 15 OF THIS PROGRAM.	Open for viewing 10:00 AM to noon. Model pick up 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Please retrieve your model contest entry prior to 1:00 PM.	Plus Art Display in Manning Room	OPEN FOR GAMING	OPEN TO THE PUBLIC	OPEN Costume prizes awarded	MINYA'S PLACE OPENS IN HANEDA!!
11:00	1967: THE KAIJU BOOM	ULTRA-7 50TH ANNIVERSARY Stan Hyde	KAIJU MANGA Kevin Derendorf				RIBBONS ON DISPLAY				AUTOGRAPHS IN DULLES ROOM
12:00	CONTEST WINNERS AWARDS	GIANT MONSTERS BY THE NUMBERS Keith Foster	KAIJU AND SPECULATIVE POETRY: Bryan Thao Worra								
1:00	GODZILLA MASTERPIECE THEATER Foster, Yount, etc.	SYFY MONSTERS Tony Isabella	INTERVIEW: STEVE RYFLE Poling, Oglio								1:30 PM REGISTRATION CLOSES
2:00	U.S. MONSTER FILMS AT SIXTY	CLASSIC KAIJU ART & KAMASHIBAI Stan Hyde	INTERVIEW: KIYOTAKA TAGUCHI Kyle Yount								
3:00	G-FAN, G-FEST, G-TOUR J.D. Lees	KRAZY KAIJU MOMENTS Scrooge Jones, et. al.	GUEST PRESS Q&A								
4:00		KAIJU KONFESSIONS Stan Hyde									
5:00											
6:00											
7:00											
8:00											
9:00											TITANO-SAURUS SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA (A.K.A. DEAD DOG-ZILLA PARTY) in the lobby, bar area, patio...
10:00											
11:00											

GODZILLA PINBALL

Check out the beautiful, authentic, old fashioned Godzilla-themed pinball machine in the video gaming room. Built from scratch by Charlie Emery. Plus, a vintage GINO pinball game, and a Godzilla arcade game. Big thanks to www.spookypinball.com.

NO NEED TO VACATE THE PREMISES. THERE'S GREAT EATING RIGHT INSIDE THE HOTEL!

Chicago Fire Oven is a full service restaurant featuring pizza, salads, sandwiches, hearty and delicious meals, and much more.

On the Fly for quick meals and lighter fare.

Visibility Bar for beverages, plus the Fire Oven's menu.

GENERAL SESSIONS

FRIDAY, JULY 14

G-FEST Orientation (NOON, Ballroom 1) - As an aid to maximizing their G-FEST experience, fans can drop by this session and get answers to any questions from convention chairman J.D. Lees.

Mothra Mania (1:00 PM, Ballroom 1) - Do you like Mothra? Is Mothra your favorite kaiju? Then this panel is for you. We will look at Mothra's appearances in movies, music, toys, games, trading cards, and more, from her first appearance to today! With Mike Sutton.

G-Pardy Adult Game 1 (1:00 PM, Ballroom 2) - The famed kaiju quiz game returns under the expert guidance of Skip Peel. Compete on Friday to qualify for the final battle Saturday night! With only two adult qualifying games this year, the highest score of the runners-up will earn one wild card spot. Who will take home the coveted Godzilla trophy this year, and become 2017's king or queen of kaiju quizzes?

50th Anniversary of *Gappa* (1:00 PM, Kennedy) - Released in the States as *Monster from a Prehistoric Planet*, Gappa was Nikkatsu Studios' only kaiju film, and a virtual remake of 1961's Gorgo. Come learn all about this unusual film with Kevin Horn.

Kong: Skull Island Discussion (2:00 PM, Ballroom 1) - Join Nick Adam Poling, host of The Monster Report on YouTube, and his panel of Michael Little, Ira Taborn, and Scrooge Jones, for a discussion focused on this year's addition to the American Monsterverse!

G-Pardy Adult Game 2 (2:00 PM, Ballroom 2) - With Skip Peel.

Kaiju Anime! (2:00 PM, Kennedy) - Whether it's dentists that work in the mouth of a dragon, a somber-&-angst-ridden robot battle, Godzilla and friends teaching arithmetic, or the *Ultraman* monsters reimagined as high school girls, there's no limit to what can be portrayed through animation. This panel looks at times Japanese anime has crossed paths with the kaiju genre, and how the industries have influenced each other over the years, culminating with this winter's upcoming feature film *Godzilla: Monster Planet*. With Kevin Derendorf.

***Son of Godzilla* 50th Anniversary** (3:00 PM, Ballroom 1) - In 1967, Godzilla had a second Island Adventure. A great cast, and lots of monsters helped this film deliver the goods. Come listen to Danny Tokarz and his friends as they reminisce about it all during the fiftieth anniversary of this intriguing entry in the series. With Kevin Horn, Colin McMahon, Nick Adam Poling, Chris Oglio, and John LeMay.

Marvel Monsters (3:00 PM, Ballroom 2) - Before the Avengers and Spider-Man, Marvel Comics published giant monster comics. A LOT of them! And many of those monsters, like Fin Fang Foom and Groot, have become a part of the modern Marvel Universe. Come hear a lively discussion of these wacky but loveable creatures from writer Tony Isabella (Black Lightning, Ghost Rider, and more), artist Mark Maddox, and fan Andy Matzke.

Kaiju Talks (3:00 PM, Kennedy) - Inspired by TED Talks, Stephen Schilling offers a unique perspective on what Godzilla & Gamera really might be.

***The Mysterians* 60th Anniversary** (4:00 PM, Ballroom 1) - Sixty years ago, using flying saucers and burrowing robots, the Mysterians invaded the Earth. Come join Ed Godziszewski and Steve Ryfle, authors of the upcoming book Ishiro Honda: a Life in Film, From Godzilla to Kurosawa, for a discussion of this seminal science fiction film.

G-Pardy 2017 Kid Championship (4:00 PM, Ballroom 2) - By popular demand, one grand game of the kaiju quiz has been designed for kids (age 12 and under) and will crown a 2017 Kids' Champion, awarding a mini trophy the winner can keep! For those interested in entering, arrive on time to gain highest marks on the qualifying entry pre-quiz; top three players will be able to compete for this title. Moderated by Skip Peel.

Big in Japan (4:00 PM, Kennedy) - Toho actor and Big In Japan star, Robert Scott Field joins artist Alan OW Barnes for a discussion of the success of Big in Japan! Don't miss the story behind the story, and find out what monstrous daikaiju craziness is coming your way!

Opening Ceremonies (7:00 PM, Ballroom 1&2) - The official opening of G-FEST XXIV introducing our special guests, as well as members of the committee that produce the convention.

Young Fan Costume Parade (approx. 7:30 PM, Ballroom 1&2) - Due to ever-increasing participation, G-FEST offers two costume parades this year. Friday night features young fans displaying their (and their parents') handiwork. Don't miss out on the fun.

Radioactive Karaoke (Following Opening Ceremonies, Ballroom 2)

SATURDAY, JULY 15

Summit Kaiju Creative Contest & Video (9:00 AM, Ballroom 1) - Join us at the Summit Kaiju panel as we unveil an original, animated short film featuring our new CGI kaiju! We will also be announcing the winner of this year's "Summit Kaiju Creative Photo Contest" who will be awarded an X-Plus Gigantic Series Shin Godzilla vinyl statue. Don't miss it! With Jeremy Soles, David Eric Dopko, Jon D. Bumpus, Jessica Etchells, Christine Chapin, Leslie Chambers, Joe "Dopepope," John Ruffin, Nick Shev, Alex Andrea Kalantzis, and David Galindo.

Interview: Kazuhiro Nakagawa (9:00 M, Ballroom 2) - Mr. Nakagawa will discuss his genre career, including his work as writer and director of *Day of the Kaiju* and as assistant director on *Attack on Titan* and *Shin Godzilla*. With Archie Waugh and Robert Scott Field.

Japanese Culture the Yokai Way (9:00 AM, Kennedy) - Back by popular demand! This time we'll explore the many connections between yokai and Japanese religion, history, and folklore, as well as the now-global yokai phenomenon. With Joyce Boss.

Gamera vs. Gyaos (10:00 AM, Ballroom 1) - Nick Adam Poling of The Monster Report partners with the hosts of the Kaiju Transmissions Podcast, Kyle Byrd and Matt Parmley, to pay tribute to the 50th Anniversary of this great Gamera classic!

Interview Michiru Oshima (10:00 AM, Ballroom 2) - The only woman ever to compose the score for a G-film, and the creator of a distinctive and dynamic new theme for the King of the Monsters, discusses her career and technique with John DeSentis via Robert Scott Field.

Godzilla (Gamera) Stories (10:00 AM, Kennedy) - Join us for an interactive session where fans share their stories inspired by and about Godzilla. Bring one story you are working on... or, if you have the kernel of an idea, Stephen Schilling will help draw the deeper elements of your

MAKING G-FEST HAPPEN: MARTIN ARLT



Putting together the entertaining and informative schedule of presentations for G-FEST is no small task, but Martin Arlt has repeatedly proved that he's more than up for it. He's also the editor of the fantastic fanzine Mad Scientist, and he's a real scientist as well, so it's no wonder he has superb organizational skills. Collecting, organizing, and scheduling the various offerings, and even participating in a few himself, Martin creates a program other cons could only dream of.

GENERAL SESSIONS CONT.

story into the open. You'll be surprised by the variety of ideas you hear, and may very well be inspired to contribute your own.

The Lost Godzilla Films (11:00 AM, Ballroom 1) - Ever wondered what the real story is behind movies such as "Bride of Godzilla," "Continuation: King Kong vs. Godzilla," and "Batman Meets Godzilla?" Find out the truth regarding these tantalizing unproduced films and many others at the Lost Godzilla Films panel by John LeMay, who got his information straight from the Japanese sources.

Interview: Yuji Kaida (11:00 AM, Ballroom 2) - Yuji Kaida, the world's most renowned painter of kaiju subjects and scenes is interviewed by America's top kaiju artist, Bob Eggleton.

Godzilla vs. Mothra (1992) 25th Anniversary (11:00 AM, Kennedy) - The second film of the nineties, and fourth in the Heisei Series, brings back Mothra, and Japan goes Godzilla crazy (again). This was the most successful entry of the Heisei series. Come talk it up with Danny Tokarz, Jeff Horne, Scott Witherall, and Joey Leonard.

Fresh Vinyl Live! (NOON, Ballroom 1) - Get the current news on releases from X-Plus and S.H. Monster Arts! *Shin Godzilla* fever is still very hot with new collectibles churning out left and right! How do you focus your collection? To sell or not to sell!? Much freshness to discuss. Have you been wanting to be part of Fresh Vinyl Live? This year you get a chance to be front and center with us to discuss toys! Fresh! With Richard Eso, David Eric Dopko, and Jon Bumpus.

Hollywood "Kaiju" Strike Back (NOON, Ballroom 2) - Sixty years ago, Hollywood took its first shaky steps at mimicking Toho's giant monster epics, with frequently hilarious but lovable results. *Beginning of the End, The Deadly Mantis*, and *The Giant Claw* boast classic B-movie casts, loads of stock footage, specious "science", and comical special effects! With Archie Waugh and Martin Arlt.

Drawing with Matt (NOON, Kennedy) - Comic artist Matt Frank (Godzilla: Rulers of Earth) will do a Q&A while drawing an oversized piece of art to be put up for auction after the panel!

Advancing Your Kaiju Filmmaking Skills (1:00 PM, Ballroom 1) - Fans creating their own kaiju short films are a big part of the kaiju community. Join Jake DeNunzio in an instructional panel that will give plenty of in-depth tips on bringing your home-made kaiju visions to life, as well as a live demonstration of creating some simple special effects that can enhance your movies immensely!

Interview: Shinji Higuchi (1:00 PM, Ballroom 2) - Fresh off his win as Best Director for Best Picture *Shin Godzilla* at the Japanese Academy Awards, the visionary filmmaker discusses Shin G, his career, and his future, with G-FAN editor J.D. Lees.

Kaiju Films: The Human Element
(1:00 PM, Kennedy) - Everyone loves themselves some giant monsters, all monsters of the alphabet, from Anguirus to Zigra. But what about the human characters that were also along for the ride? Our panelists discuss some of their favorite and least favorite human characters from our beloved Godzilla and Gamera film series. With Scrooge Jones and Pam Arlt.

***Shin Godzilla* vs. Legendary *Godzilla*: Brothers from Different Mothers** (2:00 PM, Ballroom 1) - In 2014, Legendary Entertainment released *Godzilla*, an American interpretation of the classic Toho canon. Two years later, Toho released *Shin Godzilla*, a darker re-imagining of its most famous property. Obviously, a film born of the modern Hollywood film industry will have major differences from a film born of perhaps the greatest film company in Japan. But maybe there's more in common than just a big "green" lizard. Join us, as a panel of concerned citizens discusses the deeper similarities between these two films. With Ira Taborn, Kym Taborn, and Tristan Domay.

Ishiro Honda (2:00 PM, Ballroom 2) - Ed Godziszewski and Steve Ryfle, authors of the upcoming biography Ishiro Honda: A Life in Film, From Godzilla to Kurosawa, discuss the life and work of the legendary director.

The Art of Kaiju Writing (2:00 PM, Kennedy) - Join Skip Peel (Rex Summeral), Neil Riebe (Attack of the Kaiju & Battle on Manazura Island), and John LeMay (Plague of the Gargantuas) for a discussion on writing kaiju fiction. We'll cover all aspects of writing, from character to plot development. You have questions? Ask them. We're here for you!

Gorgo, Konga, and Reptilicus (3:00 PM, Ballroom 1) - Each has appeared on the silver screen only once, but these were far more than just standalone films! A panel discussing the movies, the novel adaptations, and the comic books, with Tony Isabella and Mark Maddox.

Interview: Ryuki Kitaoka (3:00 PM, Ballroom 2) - From *Godzilla Final Wars* to *Death Kappa*, our guest has been a suitmation actor (notably in the 90's version of *Ultra Seven*), an actor, and a stunt performer who has traded blows with the likes of Jackie Chan. Join us for a discussion of the adventure of being an action performer! With Stan Hyde.

Kaiju Oji at 50: Still the Prince of Monsters! (3:00 PM, Kennedy) - Everyone has heard of P Productions' *The Space Giants/Maguma Taishi*. However, their follow-up series, *Kaiju Oji* ("Monster Prince") remains relatively unknown. On its 50th anniversary, enjoy this introduction to P Pro's other big special effects series, and find out why it was cut short just as it was catching on. With Lewis Austin

G-TOUR 3.5: THE SEARCH FOR SHIN GODZILLA! (4:00 PM, Ballroom 1) - In the summer of 2016, a group of intrepid fans descended on Tokyo to be part of the celebration of the first Godzilla film in over a decade. This is their story. With Stan Hyde, Kevin Horn, and Paul Plutzker.

Kaiju Music Videos (4:00 PM, Ballroom 2)

Acapella Ifukube (4:00 PM, Kennedy) - Come learn to make the beloved music of Akira Ifukube... using only our voices, mouths and hands as the instruments. In honor of the Bukimisha Weird Secret Society - the artists who originated this in Japan - we will spend our hour trying to recreate one favorite theme, and having a lot of fun doing so. With Stephen Schilling.

G-Pardy Championship (7:00 PM, Ballroom 1 & 2) - With Skip Peel.

Award Ceremony (7:30 PM, Ballroom 1 & 2)

Adult Costume Parade (8:00 PM, Ballroom 1 & 2)

Amateur Kaiju Videos (9:00 PM, Ballroom 1 & 2)

SUNDAY, JULY 16

***Shin Godzilla* Discussion** (10:00 AM, Ballroom 1) - *Shin Godzilla* was a huge success, earning big box office and critical acclaim. It was also a major departure from previous Godzilla films. Come see what is sure to be a lively debate over the pros and cons of this unique film. With Jeff Horne, Stan Hyde, Scrooge Jones, Stephen Schilling, Lewis Austin, and Nick Adam Poling.

Japan Update (10:00 AM, Ballroom 2) - With Robert Scott Field.

TG2WAC Productions – Return of the Giant Monster (10:00 AM, Kennedy) - After a five year hiatus, TG2WAC has announced it will be resuming production of kaiju eiga! Learn about their project for next year and how you might be able to play a part! With Lewis Austin.

1967: The Year of the Kaiju (11:00 AM, Ballroom 1) - Fifty years ago, Japanese theaters and TV screens were filled with giant monsters.

From *Giant Robo* and *Ultra Seven* to *King Kong Escapes* and *The X From Outer Space*, it was an eventful year for the kaiju fan. Come hear about the good, the bad, and the ugly that made their appearance that year. With Jeff Horne, Stephen Schilling , Lewis Austin, Joey Leonard.

***Ultra-Seven* 50th Anniversary** (11:00 AM, Ballroom 2) - Join two actors who have been part of *Ultra-Seven*'s storied history, Robert Scott Field and Ryuki Kitaoka, as well as moderator Stan Hyde, to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the most science fictional of all the Ultra Brothers! Watch out for those eye-sluggers!

Kaiju Manga Raids Again! (11:00 AM, Kennedy) - This "sequel" to last year's kaiju manga panel offers even more background on the cool, gorgeous, and often bizarre giant monster comics produced in Japan. Come learn about the overlooked link between Astro Boy and Mechagodzilla, the secret folklore origins of Gigan, and... kaiju volleyball? With Kevin Derendorf.

Awards Ceremony for Contest Winners (NOON, Ballroom 1) -

Giant Monsters by the Numbers (NOON, Ballroom 2) - Join Keith Foster (Kodoja writer and host of the Nerdometrics podcast) to mix economics, data and giant monsters! In past years we've talked about the cost to rebuild cities in Godzilla's wake, the largest recorded monsters on Earth and Cthulhu sightings. Who knows what this year has in store?

Kaiju in Speculative Poetry (NOON, Kennedy) - Beyond the screens, Godzilla and other kaiju have also inspired numerous books of poetry over the decades. Join Bryan Thao Worra, president of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Poetry Association, and the author of the chapbook The Kaiju and I, for a lively reading and discussion of where we might go next with Godzilla poetry!

Godzilla Masterpiece Theater (1:00 PM, Ballroom 1) - And thus we complete a trilogy; back for year three, it's a dramatic live-read of Godzilla comics! What comics will we choose this time? Sit in and find out! Featuring Kyle Yount (Kaijucast), Stephen Schilling (Godzilla artist), and Keith Foster (Kodoja).

Syfy Monsters (1:00 PM, Ballroom 2) - Culture critic Tony Isabella takes a look at some of the high entertainment but low budget creations that have screened on Syfy.

Steve Ryfle Interview (1:00 PM, Kennedy) - Chris Oglio and Nick Adam Poling spend some quality time with Ishiro Honda expert Steve Ryfle, author of Japan's Favorite Monstar and an upcoming book on the life of director Honda.

U.S. Monster Films at 60 (2:00 PM, Ballroom 1) - In 1957, giant monsters could be found in theaters all over the U.S. There were colossal men, lizards from Venus, a monster that looked like Beaky Buzzard, and bugs. Lots of bugs. With Martin Arlt, Mark Maddox, Michael Little, and Tristan Domay.

Classic Kaiju Art and Kamashibai Panel (2:00 PM, Ballroom 2) - Join Stan Hyde and Len Medlock for a celebration of classic kaiju art and artists. You'll see the stories of your favourite kaiju that have been carefully guarded secrets until now, and there'll be some classic kaiju story-telling as well.

Interview: Kiyotaka Taguchi (2:00 PM, Kennedy) - Kyle Yount goes behind the scenes with the director of *Ultraman X, Orb*, and *Ginga*. His spfx work on Millennium Series G-films will also be covered.

G-FAN, G-FEST, and G-TOUR (3:00 PM , Ballroom 1) - Any fans curious about the history, inner workings of, or future plans for the "Three G's" may ask questions and make suggestions. With J.D. Lees.

Krazy Kaiju Moments (3:00 PM , Ballroom 2) - What. The. Heck. Words these moments live by. A celebration of the movie moments that made you rewind and watch that scene again. Just to make sure you saw it right. We will be discussing our favorite moments in kaiju film history. Afterwards, we let the audience decide which moment is the best. With Scrooge Jones, Michael Little, and Joey Leonard.

Guest press Q & A (3:00 PM, Kennedy) - A special session for the visiting digital media where they have the opportunity to interview this year's G-FEST guests.

Kaiju Konfessions (4:00 PM, Ballroom 2) - Fans that have an ounce of energy left can take part in this classic G-FEST interactive closing session. It's become an ancient tradition, like the chanting of the natives on Farou Island. Prepare to see sights unimaginable to the human mind, with Stan Hyde as the ringmaster.

AUTOGRAPHS

Formal autograph signing sessions will be located downstairs in the Dulles Room on both Saturday and Sunday. Signing by Shinji Higuchi, Michiru Oshima, Ryuki Kitaoka, Kazuhiro Nakagawa, Kyotaka Taguchi, and Robert Scott Field will take place during specific times. (See schedule in this program or posted by the door to Dulles.)

Mr. Yuji Kaida will be in the Dealers Room during most of its open hours, and will be signing his works (and autograph items) there.

For all except Mr. Kaida, autograph seekers must purchase advance tickets to get autographs. Tickets are available at the G-FAN/Daikaiju Enterprises table in Concourse A (by Registration). Prices will be posted, and photos for signing may be available at no extra cost. Mr. Kaida will have an assistant at his table to handle his transactions.

Please do not pester guests for autographs outside the autograph area. It's not fair to the guest, and it's not fair to the people who paid for an autograph.

CONTESTS

ART CONTEST: If you have art for display, take it to the Manning Room (access through the Metro oom, which is Artist Alley). Fill in the form provided and give it, along with your art, to the volunteer on duty. Our art experts will judge the work on Saturday night, and ribbons will be on the winners by Sunday morning. Retrieve your art on Sunday afternoon.

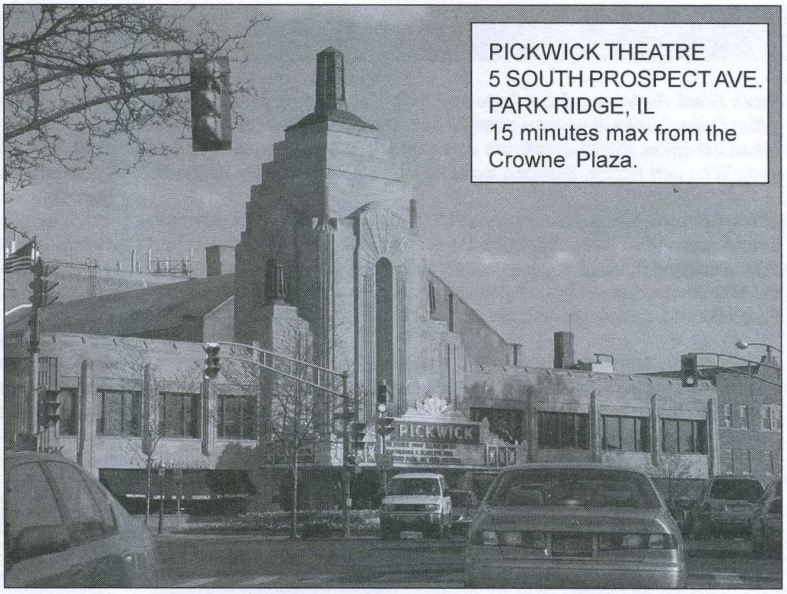
COSTUME PARADES: See Costumes & Tokusatsu section on page 22 of this program.

KAIJU MUSIC VIDEO CONTEST: Videos have been submitted, then pre-judged by a panel of experts. Screening will take place in Ballroom 2 at 4:00 PM on Saturday.

MODEL CONTEST: See G-FEST model show section on pages 20 and 21 of this program.

VIDEO CONTEST: Videos will be screened on Saturday night after the Costume Parade. The videos will have been pre-judged. Award statuettes for the video contest will be presented after the screenings.

MOVIES



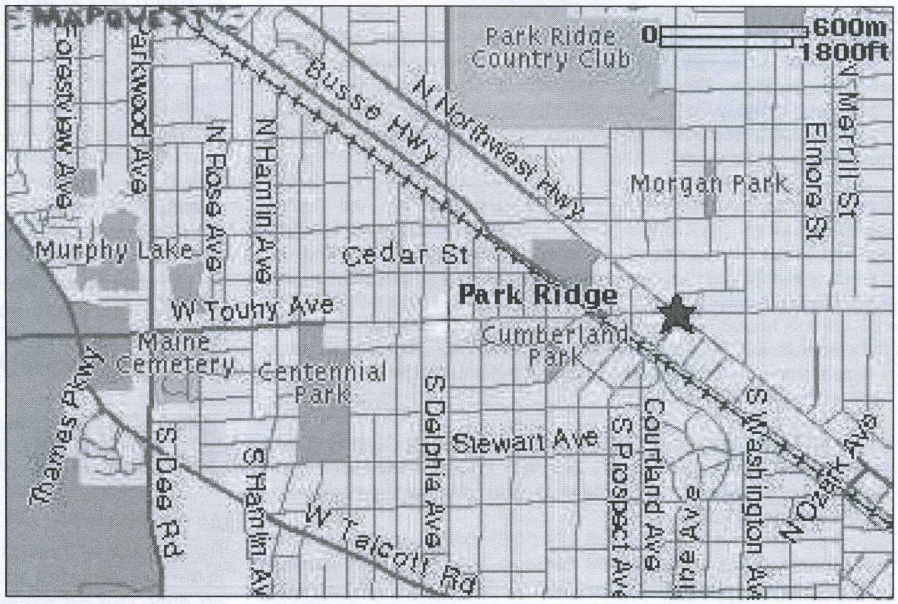
G-FEST has a history of bringing to western G-fans films they otherwise wouldn't have a chance to see on the big screen, including North American theatrical premieres of *Gamera 3*, *Godzilla* ('54), *Godzilla vs Destroyah, Son of Godzilla, Rebirth of Mothra 3, Godzilla vs Megaguirus,* and many others.

Again this year, the movies will be shown at the Pickwick Theater, 5 South Prospect, Park Ridge, IL, 60068. Before the convention, on July 13, there is an afternoon double bill featuring *King Kong vs Godzilla* (this is its 55th anniversary) and *Dragon Wars*, beginning at 1:00 PM. In the evening, enjoy the double bill of *Godzilla vs Megaguirus* (scored by special G-FEST guest Michiru Oshima) at 7:00 PM, and *Godzilla* (2014) at 9:00 PM. (Each double bill is $10.)

Kong: Skull Island is screening at 10:30 PM on Friday. Saturday night features *Shin Godzilla*, introduced by its award-winning director Shinji Higuchi, starting at 10:30 PM. Tickets ($10) will be sold at the theater box office.

Reaching the theater is the responsibility of each ticket holder. G-FEST attendees can help one another by organizing in one of the following manners:

- Those who are driving to the theater should pull up in front of the hotel for a few minutes before they leave, and offer a ride to those who don't have transportation.
- Use the G-FEST message board to secure a ride to the theater in advance of the show.
- A taxi ride shared between four attendees should cost less than $5 each.
- Vans may be organized so check the lobby registration area and lobby for departure times and prices.



The same methods have been used for the past several years, and there haven't been any significant problems reported.

The following are directions for travelling to the Pickwick Theater from the Crowne Plaza Chicago O'Hare:

Leave the hotel and go north on (turn left onto) North River Road. It becomes Des Plaines River Road, then South River Road. (Just stay on River Rd.) You will be driving along a forest preserve, and after passing Axehead Lake, you come to Touhy Ave. Turn right. After passing through the forest preserve and then about 20 city blocks, you will drive under railroad tracks. Be on the lookout because the Pickwick is coming up very soon. It is on the right side of the street, just off the corner at a 6-way intersection/stoplight (Northwest Highway and Prospect Ave. are the other cross streets). You need to turn right at the intersection and the theater will be right there. Then it is every man for himself for parking. There is a metered parking lot almost right across the street that is free after hours (for the Friday and Saturday night showings). You may also park on residential streets to the east of the theater.

Driving time from the hotel should be 15 minutes max. Tickets for the movies are available at the theater box office.

FILM FESTIVAL

G-FEST's Film Festival grew out of the amateur video contest. Some of the creators wanted to produce a more "substantial" product than the contest's six minute time limit allows. Therefore, in 2013, the Festival was created to showcase longer running, more complicated amateur films. Who knows, one day G-FEST's Film Festival may become the Cannes of Kaiju Eiga! Here is this year's line-up:

FRIDAY

9:00 AM - **Kaiju Boom Anniversary** - Fifty years ago, Japan experienced the height of its Kaiju Boom, with the release of *Son of Godzilla* and *King Kong Escapes* from Toho, *Gamera vs Gyaos* from Daiei, *The X From Outer Space* from Shochiku, and *Gappa the Triphibian Monster* from Nikkatsu. *Ultra-7* dominated the TV screens. Step back into 1967 and immerse yourself in Japan's kaiju culture of half a century ago!

SATURDAY

9:00 AM - **DojoWorks** (Dojo Studios):The collected works of Dojo Studios, including the latest release, *War of the Colossal Beasts*.

10:00 AM - ***CongAAARGH!*** (Christian Bradshaw): *CongAAARGH!* is a short monster movie about a giant, mutated conger eel being disturbed from the ocean depths to terrorise a seaside town.

The Fisherman (Alejandro Suarez): Mr Wong is a third generation fisherman in Hong Kong, struggling to keep this tradition alive. One night, he decides to leave the crowded waters of the harbor and fish in calmer waters. His luck changes when he catches something that does not belong to this world.

10:30 AM - ***Hidden Monsters and Kaiju Treats*** (Mike Aguilar): A variety of deleted scenes for some of Mike's many imaginitive stop motion films shown in past G-FEST contests.

11:00 AM - ***Z-REX: The Jurassic Dead*** (Milko Davis): A scientist aligns with the Axis of Evil to bring down the U.S. with EMP blasts, toxic zombification gas, and an unleashing of the ultimate undead killing monstrosity, the Z-REX. When a hot-wired militia squad and a crew of college hipsters are thrown together to do something about it, chaotic Predator-Thunder action runs amok.

12:30 PM - ***Kaiju Bunraku*** (Lucas Leyva): Here's a day in the life of a husband and wife living in a world of giant monsters.

Erin, Owen, and the Loch Ness Monster (Nicholas Julius): Scottish siblings Erin and Owen MacDonald, escaping the clutches of bullies, barely arrive on time for their father's Loch Ness boat tour. Little do they know that they will be swept off the tour boat, swallowed by the Loch Ness Monster, and brought to the land of Mythatania, where all creatures heard of in myth and folklore have gone to escape the outside world.

1:00 PM - ***Long Live The King***: A feature documentary focusing on the enduring appeal of the character King Kong, and how he has inspired so many of the great (and not so great) filmmakers and artists since 1933.

2:00 PM - ***Godzilla vs King Ghidorah*** (Alex Benjamin): A meteor releases a space monster that confronts Godzilla in Japan.

MAKING G-FEST HAPPEN: JEFF HORNE



Jeff has been a fan of Godzilla as long as he can remember. From drawing filmbooks in 3rd grade, to grabbing the TV guide each week to scour the film listings for Godzilla movies, to building the Aurora glow in the dark kit, the King of the Monsters has been a huge part of his life. After seeing the adverts for the first G-Con 1995 in G-FAN magazine, Jeff has been a regular attendee, and later a member of the convention staff handling Media Relations, putting together the annual G-FEST Film Festival, scheduling the in-house G-FEST TV channel, and many other tasks.

2:30 PM - ***Zone Fighter: Season 2 - Episode One*** (Jake DeNunzio): Thirty years have passed since Zone Fighter first defended the Earth. However, an ancient evil has risen once more, and Zone Fighter will answer another call to action in order to protect the planet.

3:00 PM - ***Kaiju Gaiden Strikes Back*** (Mark Jaramillo): The latest presentation from Mark shows new independent and fan films. Big News about the future of *Kaiju Gaiden* is also included.

MIDNIGHT - **Jurassic City** (Sean Cain): Prehistoric animals emerge from a ascience lab and tear up most of Los angeles.

SUNDAY

9:00 AM - **DojoWorks** (Dojo Studios): Encore showing.

10:00 AM - ***Jurassic School*** (Mark Atkin): A cloned baby dinosaur escapes and chaos ensues.

11:30 AM - ***Revenge of the Lost*** (Eric Franklin): Three survivors must make their way through a dinosaur apocalypse.

1:10 PM - **SciFi Short Movies** (andrea Ricca): Shorts and trailers for The Giant Scorpion, Crocozilla, Alien Worms, and more.

1:36 PM - ***Terror Birds*** (Sean Cain): College students encounter a pair of gigantic, ravenous prehistoric birds.

3:00 PM - Kaiju Gaiden Strikes Back (Mark Jaramillo): Encore.

MINYA'S PLACE

Calling Monster Island... It's an invitation to Minya's Place!

G-FEST's smallest attendees will enjoy Minya's Place, where they can create colorful kaiju crafts, or just chill like Ichiro at the end of a long school day. Minya's Place will be open on Saturday at 9:00 a.m. and Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

Please note that Minya's Place is not a daycare or babysitting service. All attending youngsters should be supervised and assisted by the adult that brought them.

IN-HOUSE TV CHANNEL

Jeff Horne has put together a wonderful line-up of shows which can be accessed on the hotel's in-house TV channel (channel number will be posted around the hotel) according to the schedule below. This is your kaiju weekend, so forget news and/or sports for a couple of days. Please enjoy the 24 hour kaiju fun! (All films believed to be public domain and/or freely available for public convention screenings.)

THURSDAY

10:00 AM - **Godzilla and other Movie Monsters :** A documentary on kaiju and dinosaurs from the movies that one reviewer on amazon.com called "reasonably entertaining."

11:30 AM - **The Manster**: A mad doctor causes a greedy businessman's evil nature to grow its own body, right out from his existing body! Scary!!

1:00 PM - **Ultraman Tiga the Final Odyssey**: Tiga faces his greatest challenge as kaiju threaten Earth.

2:38 PM - **UltraGalaxy** (Episode 1)

3:00 PM - **Kamen Rider: Den o Ore Tanjo**: Kamen Rider finds some strange ore in his den that makes a noise like a tanjo (like a banjo, but higher pitch).

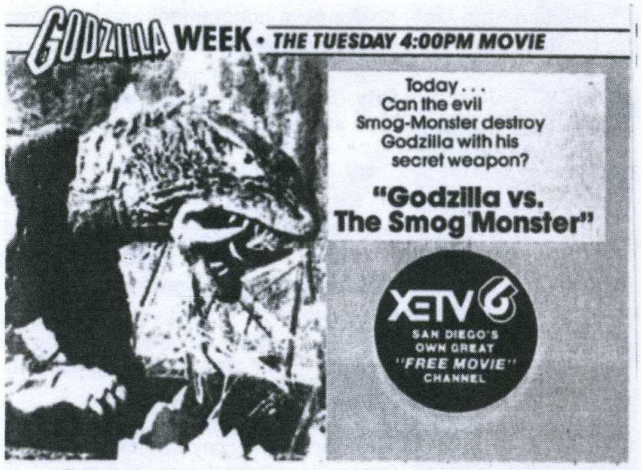
4:30 PM - **Majin Monster of Terror**: Be careful if you wake up a giant stone statue; it might be so bad tempered that it kills everyone in sight.

6:00 PM - **Men In Suits**: Documentary rips open the sweat-soaked world of suitmation actors. Have a clothes pin handy! Sponsored by Michum.

7:30 PM - **Gamera vs Gyaos** (AIP dub): Enjoy the return of some giant monsters, as Gamera takes on a blood thirsty, supersonic, laser-spittin' flying fox.

9:00 PM - **Super Inframan:** This 1975 Shaw Bros. movie tries to capitalize on the popularity of Ultraman. The Chinese superhero battles many monsters.

10:30 PM - **Agon the Atomic Dragon** (Episode 1) Mysterious Japanese TV series from the classic (ie. b&w) era.





11:00 PM - **It Came From Japan-** Documentary on the Big G's career (Toho refused to let Animal Planet use Godzilla's name in the title) that even incorporates footage taken at G-FEST!

FRIDAY

12:00 AM - **Kamen Rider** Episode 2.

12:30 AM - **Ultraman Neos** Episode 12.

1:00AM - **Ultraman Mebius Ultra Brothers.**

2:30 AM - **Zarkorr the Invader**: A gigantic monster attacks from space. (His battle against the Air Force needs to be seen to be believed!)

4:00 AM - **Great Mazinger** Episode 2.

4:30 AM - **Ultraman Jack**

5:00 AM - **DaiMajin 3**

6:30 AM - **Gamera the Brave:** A new Gamera defends Japan against a sea monster that devours people.

8:07 AM - **Scooby Doo - Battle of the Humungonauts**

8:30 AM - **Ultra Seven** (Fight scenes only.)

9:30 AM - **Iron King**

10:00 AM - **Godzilla: Battle Royale:** The Monster King faces his greatest challenge with more guest kaiju than any movie, ever! Gfantis is the special guest star!

11:30 AM - **Toho's Japanese trailers**: Scenes from the greatest kaiju epics of all; Godzilla, Mothra, and more!

1:00 PM - **All Monsters Attack**: Compilation of American version movie trailers featuring kaiju and their kin.

3:00 PM - **Gamera Super Monster**: Under the direction of invading aliens, Gamera's old enemies challenge him one after the other, in hopes of defeating Earth's champion.

4:30 PM - **The Simpsons:** 30 Minutes Over Tokyo

5:00 PM - **Monster From a Prehistoric Planet**: Gappa angry? You'd be angry, too, if someone stole your cute baby to put on display in Tokyo.

6:30 PM - **Evil Brain From Outer Space**

8:00 PM - **Gamera vs Zigra**: A super shark from another galaxy lands on Earth, causing untold destruction and intending to devour the human race.

9:38 PM - **Demon Hunter Mitsurugi** (Episode 1)

10:00 PM - **Ultra Q** (Episode 1): The origin of Ultra begins. In this episode, a disguised Godzilla suit (Gomess) battles a disguised Rodan puppet (Litra).

10:30 PM - **Gammera the Invincible:** The one that started it all, fifty two years ago. A giant terrapin is awakened from slumber by a nuclear explosion. The rest is history!

SATURDAY

MIDNIGHT - **Return of Giant Majin**: Period piece featuring a murderous gigantic statue that comes to life... and kills! Again! For the second time... in the same year (1965)!

1:30 AM - **Gamera vs Monster X**: The AIP version of *Gamera vs Jiger*, a.k.a. Monsters Attack Expo '70. One of the better entries in the Showa Gamera series, wherein Gamera is infected with the offspring of his spear-chucking enemy Jiger.

3:00AM - **Ultraman Zero vs Darclops Zero Stage I**

3:30AM - **Ultraman Zero vs Darclops Zero Stage II**

4:00 AM - **NHK World: Godzilla's 60th Anniversary**

5:00 AM - **Little Prince**

7:00 AM - **Ultraman Mebius** (Episode 1)

7:30 AM - **Ultraman Leo** (Episode 1)

8:00 AM - **Invaders From Space**: Hideous salamander men from another galaxy invade Earth, and only Starman has a chance of stopping them.

9:30 AM - **Ultraman Neos** (Episode 6)

10:00 AM - **Terror Beneath the Sea**: Fish monsters abduct two reporters and keep them prisoner in an undersea city. The reporters are terrified, which is the reason for the title of the movie.

11:30 AM - **Attack of the Monsters**: The AIP version of *Gamera vs Guillon* features a knife-headed monster and a gymnastics performance by Gamera.

1:00 PM - **Ultraman X** (Episode 1)

1:30 PM - **Kamen Rider** (Episode 1)

2:00 PM - **Pulgasari:** Before his death, North Korean president Kim Jong Il commissioned a kaiju epic depicting the destructive nature of communism as a rampaging monster. Unfortunately, his son didn't get the point.

3:30 PM - **Ultraman Moebius** (Episodes 48, 49, and 50)

5:00 PM - **Agon the Atomic Dragon** (Episode 2) Part 2 of a four-part kaiju mini-series featuring a monster that seeks radiation.

5:30 PM - **Deep Sea Monster Raiga**: Shipping all over the globe is endangered by a monster that rises from the depths.

7:00 PM - **Hail to the King: 60 Years of Destruction**: A fond look at the amazing movie career of Godzilla, one of the most successful pop culture icons.

8:00 PM - **Birth of Ultraman**: If you've never seen a member of the Ultra family being born, this show is your chance! Not for the squeamish!!

8:30 PM - **Ifukube 100 Concert:** Live concert performed in honor of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Akira Ifukube.

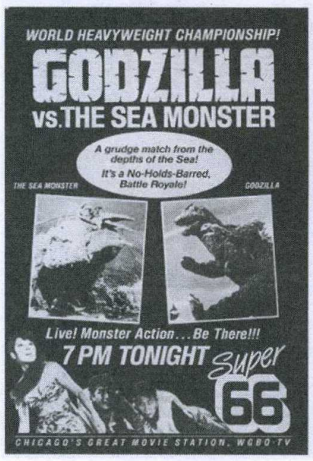
10:30 PM - **Superhero Wars - Kamen Rider X Super Sentai**

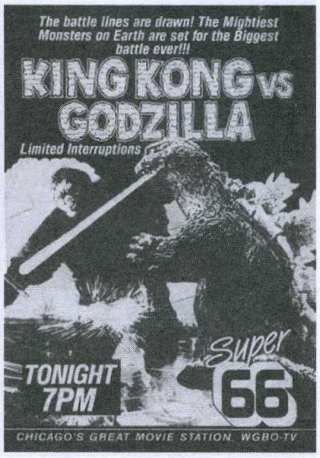
SUNDAY

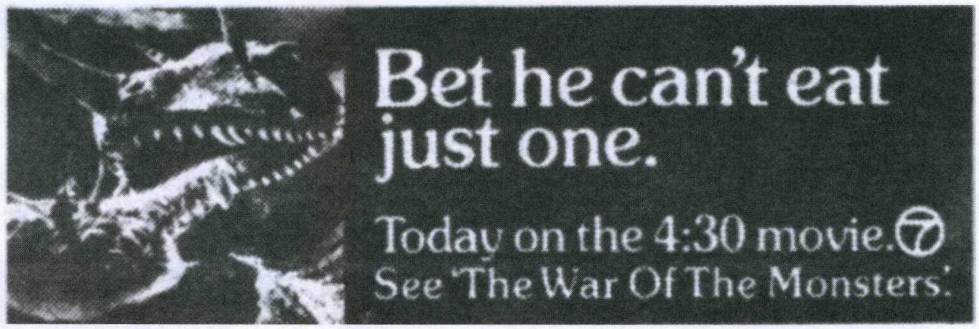
MIDNIGHT - **Daigoro vs Goliath:** Tsuburaya's whimsical take on a kaiju vs kaiju fantasy.

1:30 AM - **Ultraman Zero: The Revenge of Belial**: Ultra Belial returns with another plot to enslave the universe.

3:30 AM - **Gorgo**: London braces for the assault of an enraged sea monster.







5:00 AM - **Ultraman Ace** (Episode 1)

5:30 AM - **Mikazuki** (Part 1): Keita Amemiya's superb take on kaiju, robots, and all the touchstones of tokusatsu eiga.

7:30 AM - **Agon the Atomic Dragon** (Episode 3): Unless a way is found to stop the depredations of Agon, humanity is doomed! Doomed, I tell you!!

8:00 AM - **Ultraman Saga**

9:30 AM - **Symphonic Fury**: The historic concert featuring Akira Ifukube's music of the monsters, as well as Ko Otani's Gamera and GMK themes.

11:30 AM - **Ultraman** (Episode 10) An insane doctor raises the monster Jiras from the depths of a lake. Sharp-eyed fans will recognize that Jiras is actually an old Godzilla suit with a neck frill.

NOON - **Negadon the Monster From Mars**: A very different type of hero tries to stop a space monster from destroying humankind.

12:30 PM - **Ultraman Taro** (Episode 1)

1:00 PM - **Kamen Rider OOO and Kamen Rider W: The Movie** (full version)

2:30 PM - **Ultraman vs Kamen Rider**

3:36 PM - **Red Baron** (Episode 1)

4:00 PM - **Gehara the Dark and Long-haired Monster**: Shinji Higuchi's original kaiju creation.

4:30 PM - **Ultraman** (Episode 39): The culmination of the original *Ultraman* series; Ultraman meets his match in Zetton, the ultimate alien.

5:00 PM - **Ultraman Ginga**

5:30 PM - **Ultraman X Special: The Rainbow of Victory**

6:30 PM - **Attack the Ultra Family**

7:00 PM - **Great Yokai War**

9:06 PM - **Prince of Space**

10:30 PM - **The Golden Bat**

MONDAY

MIDNIGHT - **Yokai Monsters 1:** Folklore type creatures attack each other. Why?

1:30 AM - **Atomic Rulers**

3:00 AM - **Ultra Seven** Episode 1

3:30 AM - **The Adventures of Ultraman**

5:00 AM - **The Magic Serpent** (AIP version): A mystic snake features heavily in this Japanese fantasy film.

6:30 AM - **Ultraman: Towards the Future** (Episode 1)

7:00 AM - **Ultraman: Towards the Future** (Episode 2)

7:30 AM - **Dojo Filmworks Presents**: Collection of shorts from Dojo Studios, featuring Gfantis and many of his kaiju cohorts. Two thumbs up!

8:30 AM - **Kamen Rider W Forever: A to Z, The Gaia Memories of Fate**

9:30 AM - **The 6 Ultra Brothers vs the Monster Army**

G-FANS HELPING G-FANS

The G-FEST fundraising drive, G-fans Helping G-fans, continues. Many G-fans have donated items which will be sold during the convention by silent auction. The items will be on view at the G-fans Helping G-fans table in Concourse B. There are also raffle tickets for free hotel stays and other prizes. Money raised goes to children with autism and other charitable causes that directly impact our G-fan community.

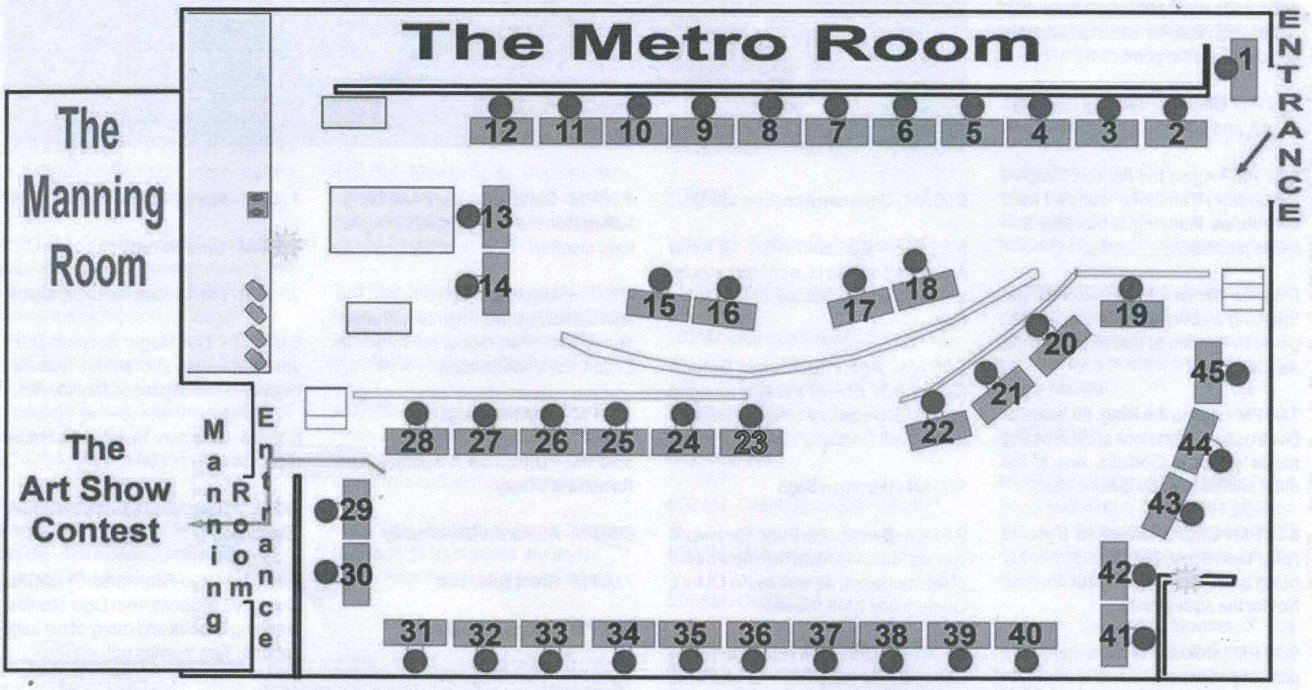
MAKING G-FEST HAPPEN: DAVE NUNES



Double duty is the name of the game with Dave. Not only is he in charge of the Dealers Room, this 20 year Navy veteran organizes and manages the activities of the convention's charity effort, G-fans Helping G-fans. This fund raising effort has been a part of G-FEST since 2001 and, over the years, has benefitted many G-fans and their families. Please consider how you could be a part of it.

ARTIST ALLEY

G-FEST's Artist Alley has grown greatly over the past few years under the leadership of the talented Frank Parr. This year, Lysa Shin has handled the organization, and Frank is getting a bit of a break by simply tending to his own table. Artist Alley occupies the hotel's Metro Room, and the Art Display is housed in the adjoining Manning Room. Check out the tremendous talent on display in Artist Alley.



Artist Tables

1- Sean McGuinness
2/3- Luke Stelmaszek
4- Ray Fromme
5- Keith Foster
6- Michael Keller
7- Stephen Rickman
8- Dane Kroll
9/10- Julio Guerra
11/12- Chris Ness
13- Eric Schuster
14- Lenny Romero
15- Othell Flowers
16- Rodney Rogers
17/18 Carter Allen
19- Lysa Shin
20- Stephen Schilling
21- Alan OW Barnes
22- Mark Maddox
24/25- Chris Scalf
26/27- Dragon Fire Studios
28- Bill Couture
29/30- Katherine 'Kay' Engstrom
31- Tanner Wright
32- Joe Lucchese
33- Pino Gatti
34- Adam Kile
35- Nick Shev
36- John Bellotti Jr.
37- Larry Quach
38- Jae Hoffman
39/40- Jeff Zornow
41/42- Matt Frank
43- Reserved
44/45- Hiroshi Kanatani

Writer's Tables

23- Big Dog Ink



MAKING G-FEST HAPPEN: LYSA SHIN



Lysa "Zen" Shin has a style all her own, both sophisticated and humorous. While she is best known for her work with movie posters for horror films, including work for the always interesting Troma Studios, she is also a cover artist for Dark Oak Press. Lysa calls herself the creator of all things that eat cake and hide under your bed! Websites: facebook.com/groups/1903 68534321244; twitter.com/Lysa_Zen_Shin

WHO'S WHO AT G-FEST

It takes the efforts of many people to stage a successful convention. Here are some of the people you'll see on stage, and others who've toiled behind the scenes. Many thanks to all.

G-FEST PRESENTERS & LEADERS

Pam Arlt
Lewis Austin
Alan OW Barnes
James Biggie
Joyce Boss
Jon D. Bumpus
Kyle Byrd
Leslie Chambers
Christine Chapin
Greg Cordaro
Matt Dennion
Jake DeNunzio
Kevin Derendorf
John DeSentis
Tristan Domay
Joe "Dopepope"
David Eric Dopko
John Drooney
Robert Dwyer
Bob Eggleton
Charlie Emery
Corwin Emery
Richard Eso
Jessica Etchells
Michael Field
Keith Foster
Matt Frank
J R Fultz
David Galindo
Ed Godziszewski
Kevin Horn
Mark Jaramillo
Scrooge Jones
Mark Justice
Alex Andrea Kalantzis
John LeMay
Joey Leonard
Michael Little
Mark Maddox
Andy Matzke
Christopher Martinez
Carol McCants
Colin McMahon
Len Medlock
Chris Oglio
Matt Parmley
Skip Peel
Brandon Phillips
Paul Plutzker
Nick Adam Poling
Neil Riebe
John Ruffin
Steve Ryfle
Stephen Schilling
Nick Shev
Jeremy Soles
Mike Sutton
Ira Taborn
Kym Taborn
Danny Tokarz
Archie Waugh
John Weber
Scott Witherall
Bryan Thao Worra
Kyle Yount

Plus
Rich & Sebastian St. Andrews
Billy DuBose
Nicolas Cloutier
Abbie Scott
Jake Baker
Scott Martin
Brent Young
Tristan Domay
Alaena, Will & Luke Gavins
Jason Fry
Jim Fazar
Krys, Sheri, Frank,
Connor & Jordan Baioa

MAKING G-FEST HAPPEN: TIM BEAN



Tim Bean is charged with the very important task of looking after the G-FEST guests and making sure they have a good time so they will spread the word that G-FEST is "worth the trip." This includes organizing the autograph sessions, transportation, sightseeing, and many items of a personal nature. Tim's experience over many cons is a great asset, and guests have come to trust him.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Martin Arlt - The editor/publisher of Mad Scientist, Martin turned his talents to gathering and organizing all the presenters for this year's stellar sessions. It's the best schedule yet!

Tim Bean - Tim is in charge of making sure the guests are well-looked after and get where they're supposed to be on time. He also excels at social media promotion of the con.

Paul Gavins - A skillful creator of kaiju costumes, Paul (a.k.a. the Master of Dojo Studios) is not only in charge of the costume thread and parade, but has branched out to develop the tokusatsu (spfx) thread, with sessions on creating kaiju movies.

Jeff Horne - Jeff handles media, publicity, and social media chores for G-FEST. He creates the in-house video programming, coordinates the Film Festival, and handles several other vital tasks.

Stan Hyde - Stan comes all the way from Vancouver Canada, and is responsible for organizing the modeling thread and model contest, and offers several sessions, including the grand finale, Kaiju Konfessions.

J.D. Lees - J.D. is editor and publisher of G-FAN. His company, Daikaiju Enterprises Ltd., stages G-FEST, and the buck stops with him.

Payton Lees - Payton organizes the volunteers to make sure all the smaller but still-vital jobs are taken care of.

Dave Nunes - Dave is in charge of the Dealers Room, so if he reminds you that it's closing time, he's just doing his job! In addition, Dave organizes and runs the activities of G-FEST's charity effort, G-fans Helping G-fans.

Sue Matzke - Sue and her crew have taken over the organization and running of Minya's Place, much to the benefit of the very young fans.

Michael McCants - The Godzilla Video game tournament and the Mecha-G Arcade are under the direction of Michael and his crew.

Eric Mortensen - Mild mannered but tough, Eric is in charge of on-site registration.

Brandon Phillips - The creator of Kaiju Assault has stepped in to organize a whole weekend of tabletop gaming for G-FEST attendees.

Lysa Shin - A talented artist, Lysa has taken charge of organizing the Artist Alley this year, and helps stage the art display.

Steve Pazenski - In addition to being the G-FAN/G-FEST webmaster, Steve helps organize, coordinate, and arrange for judging the G-FEST art show.

Andy Steele - Keeping all the AV equipment functioning in the G-FEST Main Hall is Andy's huge and vital task. He does it tirelessly and well. He also organizes the Music Video event.

MODELING THREAD

JOHN PETIK MEMORIAL YEAR

This year, the staff of the G-FEST model thread would like to dedicate the events to the memory of the late John Petik. John was a great supporter of the show and always had many models on display. A friendly face at the convention, it was always good to talk kits with John and see his creativity on display. John was an enthusiastic participator in G-FEST for many years, and we will miss him greatly!

FRIDAY

10:00 AM to 4:00 PM: AIRBRUSH GODZILLA

Blackheart Models and Badger Airbrushes present an opportunity for advanced modelers to learn or upgrade their airbrush skills. This year modelers can select from either a bust of Godzilla 2014 or a bust of Godzilla 1964. *Arrangement to attend the class must have been made in advance.*

SATURDAY

MODEL PROGRAMING (in the Love Room!)

10:00 AM - NOON: BRINGING KAIJU TO LIFE! Join the panel of experienced modelers for a discussion of all the various ways to build and paint model kaiju so that they look *alive* on your shelf. Learn the tricks of building resin, vinyl, and styrene giant monsters, and get introduced to some simple painting techniques that make your work look like you're a pro! Whether you've never built a kaiju model before, or you've been doing it for years, you are guaranteed to learn something new!

NOON - 1:00 PM: PUTTING THE WONDER IN WONDERFEST JAPAN. Join our panel to explore the wonder of Wonderfest Japan! Held twice a year, the event is an incredible experience of creativity, with original model kits on view from big companies like Bandai and X-Plus to literally thousands of individual sculptors creating one of a kind kits! With Ed Godziszewski, Bill Gudmundson, and Stan Hyde

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM: THE MASTER OF MODEL BOX ART: YUJI KAIDA. Join us for an interview with G-FEST's special guest, the renowned artist Yuji Kaida. Following in the steps of past masters like Shigeru Komatsuzaki, Master Kaida's work has graced the covers of CDs, videos, movie posters, and - most important to us - model boxes! Starting with the box art for the cover of the Bandai Tokusatsu series and continuing on to the present day with kaiju subjects for companies like Hasegawa and Wave, Master Kaida is beloved by model makers. Come and meet him, and hear about the process of creating model art!

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM: MECHA-KING GHIDORAH APPEARS! SCULPTING WITH BILL GUDMUNDSON. Master sculptor Bill Gudmundson - the Resin Chef - has created many amazing (and sometimes offbeat) model kits from vehicles like the Markalite, to Godzilla foes like Gabera and King Seesar, to Gamera villains like Jiger and Viras. His latest sculpture is an amazing 30 cm scale Mecha King Ghidorah. Join Bill for an introduction to the world of sculpting original kits, and for an introduction to the most menacing mecha ever! Ghidorah is in the house!

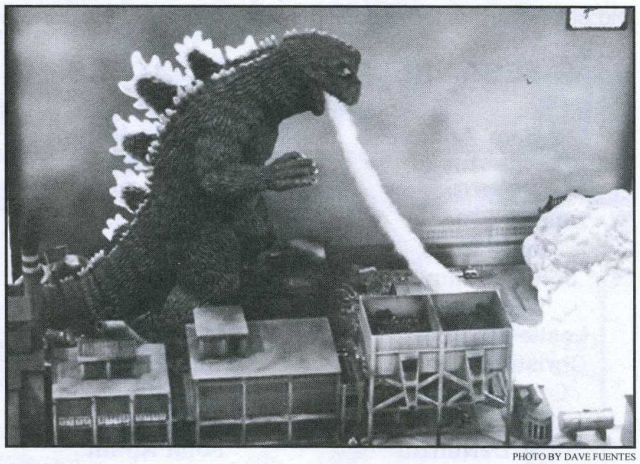


PHOTO BY DAVE FUENTES

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM: GREAT APES! DIORAMA BUILDING WITH LARRY TRIBULA. Super simians are bigger than ever and this primate panel will explore the king-sized modelling possibilities that they offer. So quit monkeying around and join Kong, Joe and Harry to get your paws on the steps of designing, building and painting a diorama of ape-ic proportions.

MAKING G-FEST HAPPEN: STAN HYDE



Stan Hyde has been involved in Science Fiction fandom most of his life, going to his first World Science Fiction Convention at 17, and starting clubs like the Science Fiction Association of Victoria, and Monster Attack Team-Canada, a science fiction and monster model building club that has been active since 1989. However, it was at his first G-FEST, in 1995, that he knew he had really found 'his people.' Working with an incredible team of model makers and artists, he organizes the how-to model presentations at G-FEST, and also does some other presentations - such as telling traditional Japanese Kaiju stories ('kamishibai"), and leading Kaiju Konfessions, the annual sing-a-long closing event at G-FEST. Last year he helped organize G-TOUR 3.5, a special trip to Japan to see *Shin Godzilla* - leaving immediately after G-FEST was over! Stan can't wait to meet as many old and new friends as possible, and he apologizes in advance if he can't stop to talk because he is running to make sure a session starts on time. He's looking forward to sharing a kaiju-sized celebration with everyone!

G-FEST MODEL CONTEST 2017

"The Biggest Little Giant Monster Show on Earth!"

FRIDAY

2:00 PM - 5:00 PM: Model Display Room open for kit display set up. When you drop off a model, please make sure you fill out an entry form.

SATURDAY

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM: Model Display Room open for kit display set up. Please try to have your kit on display by early afternoon if possible. Kits on station for viewing.

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM: Model Display Room closed for model judging. Prizes are given out in the following categories:

BEST FIGURE (JR. BUILDER)
BEST FIGURE
BEST DIORAMA (JR. BUILDER)
BEST DIORAMA
BEST SCRATCHBUILT FIGURE
PEOPLES' CHOICE: BEST OF SHOW
JUDGES' CHOICE

MODEL CONTEST PRIZES COURTESY OF

KAIJU MODELER

SUNDAY

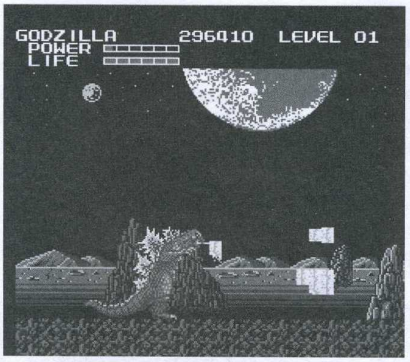
10:00 AM - NOON: Room open for viewing of kits.

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM: Kit pick up. Please bring your entry receipt to claim your kit! Besides identifying your model for the judges, the second half of the entry form is a claim check to make sure no model leaves the contest room without being given to it's owner.

1:00 PM: Model Room closes. Please ensure you have picked up your kit by then!!!

Thank you for helping make G-FEST more fun with your creativity!

MECHA-G ARCADE

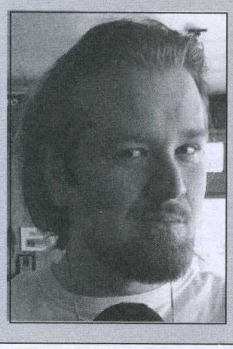


Video game fanatics of all ages will find Godzilla Heaven in the Mecha-G arcade, located in the Balmoral Ballroom. Not only is there an organized video game tournament, but there's loads of free play time for both one-on-one and team battles. There's also an amazing variety of systems for playing different Godzilla games, from the Classic originals to the latest releases. No wonder the Mecha-G Arcade is one of the busiest rooms at G-FEST.

For an even more "Classic" experience, try out the authentic Godzilla pinball games provided by Spooky Pinball, one of the Classic Godzilla and the other a GINO version. Plus a Godzilla Wars Jr. Arcade Redemption game. Any funds raised though the games goes to the G-fans Helping G-fans charity.

There are plenty of other games and activities running all weekend, including a photo scavenger hunt. Thanks to Michael McCants, J R Fultz, Carol McCants, and their amazing and energetic crew for staging such a wonderful attraction!

MAKING G-FEST HAPPEN: MICHAEL McCANTS



Each year, Michael and his family make a very ling drive from Albequerque, NM, to Rosemont, IL. Their goal? To provide a weekend of fun for G-FEST attendees in the Mecha-G Arcade. Michael organizes and runs the Kaiju Video Game Tournament, oversees the set-up of a gallery of classic Godzilla videos games, and sprinkles in enough entertaining add-ons (such as the G-FEST Photo Scavenger Hunt) to keep the Balmoral Ballroom hopping all weekend long!

GAMING

A relatively recent arrival at G-FEST is a thread devoted to table-top gaming. (There has been gaming in the past, but never a continuing thread running the entire weekend.) The action takes place in the Ideation Lounge, which is right next to the Mecha-G Arcade in the Balmoral Ballroom.

The main focus of the room will be the 2-4 player card game Kaiju Assault. It's a great game using both familiar and original kaiju creations in battle scenarios, a game made by fans, for fans. Come on out and give it a try.

There will also be autograph sessions by the creators of some of the most popular fan-created kaiju, Dane Kroll and Chris Martinez. (See schedule grid for times.) There will be a table outside the Ideation Lounge where the autograph signings will take place.

There will be other games in the program as well, particularly on Sunday, when general gaming takes place. Even if you've never played these types of games before, instructors will be on hand that will have you participating in no time. Join in and find out what so many other G-fans already know; kaiju gaming is loads of fun and a great way to make new friends in Godzilla fandom.

TOKUSATSU & COSTUMES

Tokusatsu is the Japanese word for special effects techniques. And what better way to make use of your kaiju costume than in a video project involving tokusatsu? Filming and production takes place in Ballroom 5 under the name Dojo Studios.

This year at G-FEST, filming of kaiju scenes will take place. The costumes will also be featured in the popular Costume Parade on Saturday evening.

Tokusatsu instruction

The Tokusatsu Room (Ballroom 5) will be open for observation beginning Friday AM. There will also be informal talks on spfx techniques. Check posted schedule for times.

Open Workshop

Costumers are invited to store and finish their suits for competition in the secure storage and work area in the Tokusatsu Room. There are also plenty of experienced suit-builders on hand to offer help and advice. This room is locked and secure when not attended.

Costume Event Information

Due to the increasing number of entrants, this year the costume event will be divided into two; one for young fans on Friday evening, and one for adult fans on Saturday evening. Entrants are encouraged to display their costumes at the costume parades, as well as during the convention.

The parade is free to enter, but you must attend an orientation for contestants on either Friday afternoon (young fan) or Saturday afternoon (adult). (Check the convention guide for time and place.) You will also be asked to fill out a brief entry form.

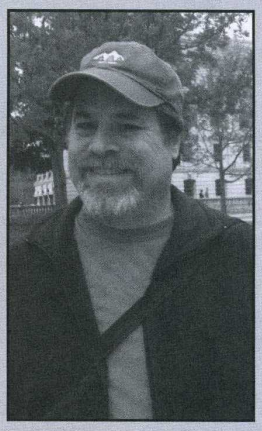
There are several categories:

1. Young Fan (youth built),
2. Young Fan (adult built),
3. Novice,
4. Journeyman,
5. Masters Level.

Also: Judges' Choice Category & Best in Show.

And, an Out of Competition category for professionally made costumes.

MAKING G-FEST HAPPEN - PAUL GAVINS



Paul Gavins took charge of the Costuming Thread in the early part of the 21st century, and turned it into the massive success it has become. He then expanded the concept into the Tokusatsu Thread and Dojo Studios, offering G-FESTers the chance to create their own kaiju scenes. Paul feels that he is "a very lucky guy" because "he gets to work with the dynamic crew of the internationally famous Dojo Studios." Paul spends a great deal of his "spare" time throughout the year creating miniature props and preparing for the intense three days at G-FEST.

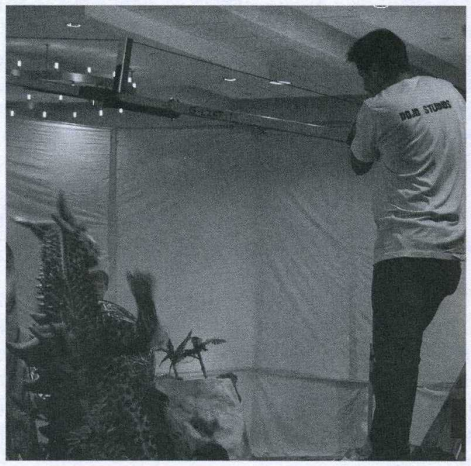
Dojo Studios also plays a major role in the costume competition and makes it all happen smoothly for the fans. The result is one of the most consistently popular events at G-FEST.

Prizes, including the annual Foamie Award, are awarded on Sunday at the Award Ceremony for Contest Winners (NOON, Ballroom 1). Custom sculpted each year by experienced suit builders, each Foamie Award is a different Oscar-style trophy carved from - you guessed it - solid foam, that you can display proudly at home. Prizes cannot be shipped, and the results of the judging won't be known until the early hours of Sunday morning.

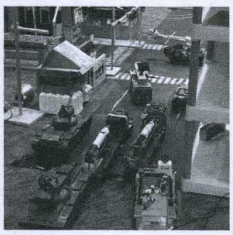
Special Movies

The G-FEST tokusatsu crew has produced several videos, some of which are available on YouTube. A compilation will also be shown on the In-House G-FEST Channel at the hotel this year.

Please feel free to wander down to Dojo Studios any time it is open. (Hours posted by the door.) You are welcome to watch, learn, and join in the filmmaking fun.











VISIT DOJO STUDIOS (in Ballroom 5) FOR KAIJU FILMMAKING FUN AND LEARNING! ALSO, GET G-FEST EXCLUSIVE FIGURES OF GFANTIS AND HIS FRIENDS AND FOES!! AMAZING!!!

HISTORY OF G-FEST

In 1993, western fans of Godzilla and other Japanese monsters discovered a rallying point for their hobby in a new fanzine called G-FAN. Created by Canadian high school teacher and long-time Godzilla fanatic J.D. Lees, the bi-monthly 'zine gained popularity, and finally "went national" with issue #9.

By the summer of 1994, many of the people who had submitted articles and art to G-FAN decided it was time to meet face to face. A "Friends of G-FAN" meeting was organized for the Labor Day weekend at a Howard Johnson's outside Chicago, and attended by about twenty hardy souls. Though they had never met one another before, the sharing of experiences, Godzilla memories, and collectibles created an instant rapport. Such a good time was had that a full-fledged convention was planned for summer, 1995. It took place in the Radisson Hotel Arlington Heights, and was repeated in 1996, and at the Wyndham Hotel in '97, and '98. In 1999 and 2000, G-FEST moved to California, then returned to the Radisson in 2001. Outgrowing the hotel, the convention moved "down the street" in 2004 to the Crowne Plaza.

Over the years, many features have been added to G-FEST that have proved popular with attendees year after year. A highlight of G-FEST is always the Modeling Thread, organized and staged by Stan G. Hyde. Modeling instruction has become a stand-alone, two-day event, and the Model Contest is always a focal point of interest. Other contests have also been mainstays over the years. The Costume Parade has always been popular, and has grown under the stewardship of Paul Gavins, now offering its own award for costume craftsmanship, the Foamie! From the Costume Thread has sprung the Tokusatsu Thread, actual filming of kaiju scenes and movies, allowing G-FEST attendees to "live the dream" of monster filmmaking

The amateur video contest (overseen by Mark Justice), music video contest (coordinated by Andy Steele), art show (managed by Steve Pazenski & Lysa Shin), gaming (now called Mecha G Arcade, and organized by Michael McCants), and Artist Alley (organized by Lysa Shin) all add to the variety of events at G-FEST. The G-FEST Film Festival, organized by Jeff Horne, has added an international aspect to the convention. Sue Matzke and her family organize and oversee the activity room called Minya's Place, a place where younger G-fans (and their parents) can participate in coloring, crafts, and other engaging pastimes.



The plaque on the base of last year's Mangled Skyscraper Award.

In recognition of special contributions made by individuals to the production and/or promotion of the Japanese monster genre, 1999 saw the introduction of The Mangled Skyscraper Award. Every award is hand crafted by Gene Rizzardi (head of the model-making crew on *Godzilla,* 1998) based on an idea by Stan Hyde and a design by J.D. Lees. Each year, the Mangled Skyscraper is presented at a special ceremony. Recipients are recognized based on their contributions to the kaiju eiga genre.

More recently, in an effort to recognize fan contributions, a G-fan Hall of Fame has been instituted, and three new inductees have been named each year beginning in 2014. A special plaque designed and created by Hiroshi Sagae is presented to each inductee.

G-FEST also raises funds for deserving causes under the banner "G-fans Helping G-fans." This effort, coordinated by Dave Nunes, has raised thousands of dollars over the years, and benefited a variety of causes including kids with autism, kids with disabilities, Japan earthquake relief, and more.

One of the hallmarks of G-FEST has always been its friendly and relaxed atmosphere. It is truly a convention staged by fans, for fans, heavily dependent on volunteers. If you wish to become more involved, please feel free to contact our volunteer coordinator Payton Lees at (paytonlees08@gmail.com).

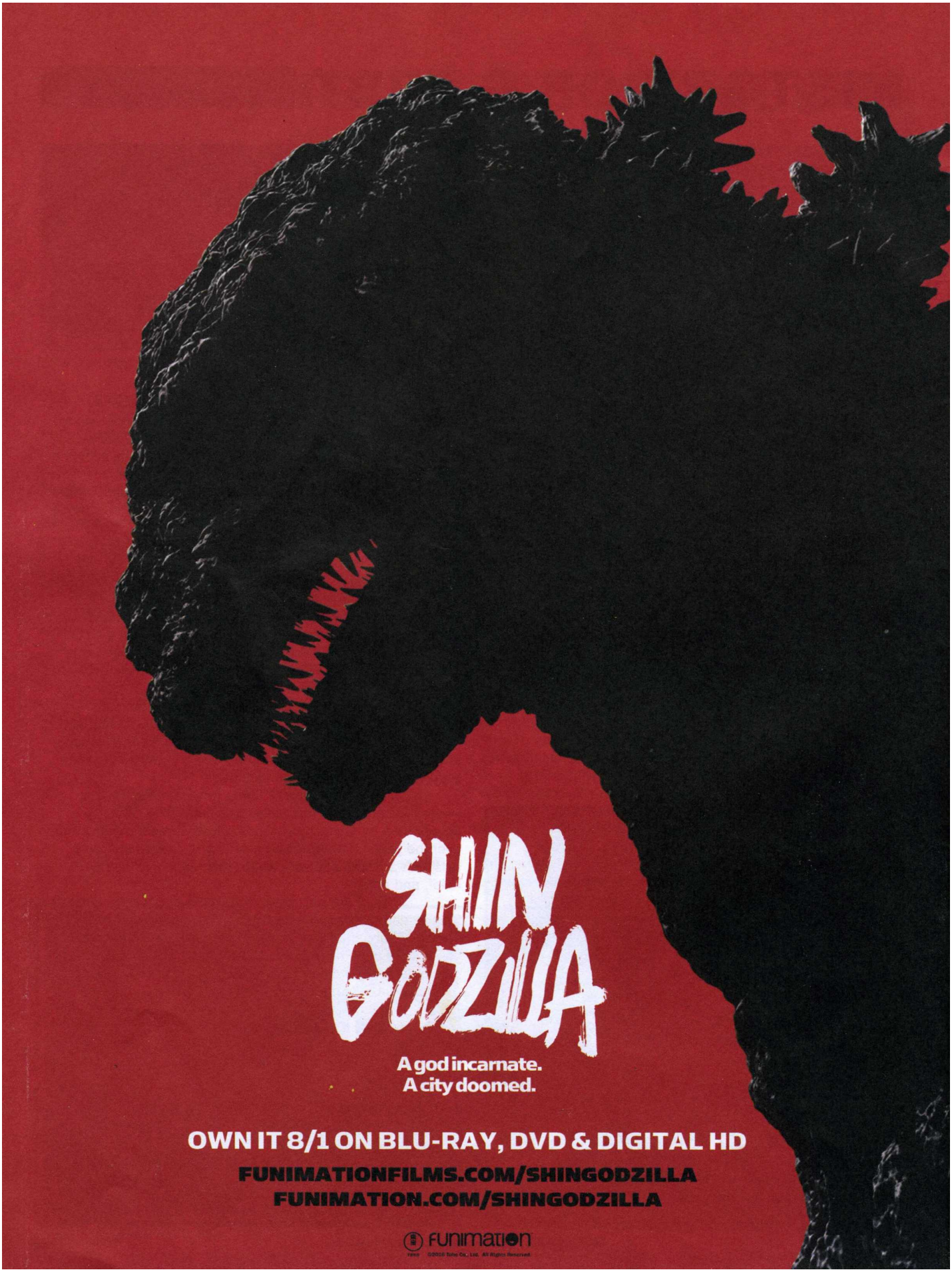
Though Godzilla's admirers are many, we are scattered widely. G-FEST offers a weekend of kaiju toys, games, activities, contests, and camaraderie, a warm and welcoming experience where age is irrelevant. When it comes to Godzilla, we're all kids at heart.

Mangled Skyscraper Award Recipients

1999 - Forrest J Ackerman
2000 - Heisei G Series spfx director Koichi Kawakita
2001 - JFFJ fanzine pioneer Greg Shoemaker
2002 - G-FEST co-founder Stan Hyde
2003 - Gamera creator and director Noriaki Yuasa
2004 - Godzilla spfx chief Teruyoshi Nakano
2005 - Super-fan turned film director Yoshikazu Ishii
2006 - G-FEST's own Robert Scott Field
2007 - Western G-fandom pioneer Dino Don Glut
2008 - Mr. Godzilla Haruo Nakajima
2009 - Multi G-film actor Kenji Sahara
2010 - The Godfather of G-FEST actor Akira Takarada
2011 - Heisei Gamera spfx director Shinji Higuchi
2012 - The original Ultraman Bin Furuya
2013 - Kaiju suit maker Shinichi Wakasa
2014 - Super G-artist Bob Eggleton
2015 - G Millennium Series director Masaaki Tezuka
2016 - Ultra actress and producer Hiroko Sakurai

G-fan Hall of Fame Inductees

Tim Bean, John DeSentis, Damon Foster, Matt Frank, Ed Godziszewski, Chris Oglio, August Ragone, John Roberto, and Tom Tvrdik


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